

More riots break out in Poland

Riots have broken out in southern Poland for the second time in 24 hours. Crowds gathered outside the Wrocław police headquarters after a loudspeaker van was prevented from broadcasting anti-state propaganda. In Katowice, on Tuesday, police clashed with Solidarity supporters after three activists were forced to stop selling union publications. **Page 8**

Royal tour TV ban threatened

A television union has threatened to "black" material shot by Independent Television News using electronic news gathering (ENG) methods if any attempt is made by ITV, the local independent company, to use it during the royal visit to Wales next week. **Page 3**

Livingstone beats censure move

Mr. Kenneth Livingstone, Labour leader of the GLC, beat off a Conservative censure move after the Chelsea bombing. A Labour amendment, recording outrage at terrorist violence, was carried by 45 votes to 39, and the motion as amended by 35 to 40. **Page 3**

Socialists take over in Athens

The first Socialist Cabinet in the history of Greece has taken over the reins of power after being sworn in by President Karamanlis. At least 13 of the 20 ministers were active in the resistance to the colonels' dictatorship and the Government's average age is under 50. **Page 8**

Death crash PC escapes ban

PC John Henry Wood, of the Thames Valley police, was fined £100 for causing the death of a student cyclist in Oxford by reckless driving while on an emergency call. Judge Myer QC said there were special reasons for not disqualifying him. **Page 5**

Lucas workers to break picket

Two hundred members of Tasa, the white-collar section of the engineering workers' union, will walk through the picket lines of three other unions on strike in a new technology dispute at two Lucas Aerospace factories in Birmingham today. The official backing of their union. **Page 2**

Villa win and Liverpool draw

In the European Cup, Aston Villa won 2-1 against Dynamo Berlin, while Liverpool drew 2-2 against AZ Alkmaar. In the Cup Winners' Cup, Tottenham Hotspur drew 2-2 in Dundalk, while in the UEFA Cup, Southampton lost 4-2 to Sporting Lisbon. **Page 23**

New cardinals

Josef Glemp, Archbishop of Warsaw, Paul Marinkus, American president of the Vatican Bank and Julijonas Jankalas, the Lithuanian Bishop presiding under arrest in the Soviet Union, are among nine new cardinals to be announced by the Pope next month. **Diary, page 14**

And then, your Honour, I tripped over some insufficient evidence.



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Letters: On North Sea oil, from Mr Norman Lamont, MP, and Professor Ian Pells; employment, from the Director of the National Computing Centre; lost art world, from Professor Thurstan Shaw.
Leading articles: Cancun; BBC licences; Wagner in Israel.
Features, page 14: President Mubarak faces some harsh home truths; Ronald Burt asks if the Social Democrats are so different from other politicians; Alan Hamilton on the 7,000th issue of the *Illustrated London News*.
Obituary, page 17: Mr Philip Unwin, Professor J. J. Auchmuty.

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Brezhnev warns Europe

Reagan blames Russia for nuclear storm

From Nicholas Ashford, Cancun, Mexico, Oct 21

President Reagan today moved swiftly to calm the storm which has broken out in Europe over recent remarks he made about the possibility of using tactical nuclear weapons. In a statement released on board Air Force One on his way to attend the 22-nation North-South summit conference which opens here tomorrow, Mr Reagan sought to attribute blame for the present controversy on the Soviet Union, because of the remarks made yesterday by President Brezhnev.

The Soviet Union was seeking to drive a wedge between the United States and its closest allies in Europe, a reference to West Germany where the storm over the Reagan remarks to American editors last weekend has been greatest. Describing recent statements by Mr Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders as "gross distortions", Mr Reagan emphasised that American policy toward deterring conflict in Europe had not changed for the past 20 years.

"Our strategy remains, as it has been, one of flexible response: maintaining an assured military capability to deter the use of force—conventional or nuclear—by the Warsaw Pact at the lowest possible level. The President said that any use of nuclear weapons would have the most profound consequences. The awful risks associated with any use of nuclear weapons themselves served to deter their use, he said.

He added: "The suggestion that the United States could even consider fighting a nuclear war at Europe's expense is an outright deception. The essence of United States nuclear strategy is that no aggressor should believe that the use of nuclear weapons in Europe could reasonably be limited to Europe. Indeed it is the joint European-American commitment to share the burden of our common defence which makes the peace, he said, adding that the presence of 375,000 American troops in Europe was evidence of the country's commitment to peace in Europe.

However, the President's statement failed to respond to the direct challenge issued by Mr Brezhnev yesterday. The latter had called on Mr Reagan to offer "a clear and unambiguous statement rejecting the very idea of nuclear attack as a criminal one."

Last weekend Mr Reagan said in a briefing for journalists that "he could see where you could have an exchange of tactical weapons against troops in the field without them bringing

either one of the major powers to pushing the button". The President made this remark while explaining to the Administration's decision to go ahead with the production and stockpiling of enhanced radiation (neutron) weapons.

This decision has been widely criticised in Europe where the increase in anti-nuclear sentiment is beginning to develop strong undertones of anti-Americanism. A growing realisation within the Administration that America's plans to start deploying Pershing and cruise medium range missiles in Europe at the end of 1983 is increasing opposition.

Today's statement was clearly designed to reassure America's western allies and to bolster their determination to go ahead with the deployment of these missiles.

□ Moscow: President Brezhnev, in a fresh attack on America's nuclear policies in Western Europe, claimed today that some countries were being used as a springboard for nuclear attack planned against the Soviet Union (AP reports).

In a Kremlin interview with Mr Johannes Rau, a prominent West German politician and state governor, Mr Brezhnev blasted the "tendency towards the use of the territories of other countries" according to a report issued by Tass.

The United States was not mentioned by name in the report, but it seemed clear to observers that American nuclear policy in Europe, especially the planned deployment of new medium range missiles, was the target of Mr Brezhnev's criticism.

The Soviet leader said the tendency he cited was an international trend that "promotes nothing good to the peoples of Europe, according to Tass."

Yesterday Mr Brezhnev urged President Reagan to renounce nuclear attacks as "criminal", saying it was dangerous madness for any side to count on "victory" in an atomic confrontation.

In a *Pravda* newspaper interview Mr Brezhnev denied Mr Reagan's charge that the Soviet leadership believed a nuclear war was possible and winnable, saying that Moscow was actively working to avert a nuclear exchange.

Tass said today that Mr Reagan's comments showed that the United States would like to put the whole risk of a thermonuclear catastrophe on Western Europe while remaining on the sidelines.

Europe's nuclear fright, page 8

Alliance likely to win first by-election seat

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr William Pitt seems likely to become the first Liberal to be elected to the Commons under the banner of the Liberal-Social Democrat alliance.

Two opinion polls suggest that Mr Pitt's lead over his opponents in today's Croydon North-West by-election has widened considerably. The more significant, conducted by MORI for the *Daily Star* as late as Tuesday and yesterday, indicates that among those who said they were going to vote, Mr Pitt would get 38 per cent, Labour's Mr Stanley Boden 31 per cent and Mr John Butterfill (Conservative) 30 per cent.

The other poll, by Gallup for the *Daily Telegraph*, was conducted mainly over the weekend, although it ended on Tuesday. Mr Pitt was supported by 37 per cent of the 1,010 electors interviewed, Mr Boden by 32.5 per cent and Mr Boden by 27.5 per cent.

The Social Democratic and Liberal parties are to split the seats equally between them at the next general election—about 300 each—and have given themselves five months to divide up the constituencies the parties announced yesterday.

The agreement on rough parity in the number of seats to be fought, an important boost to the alliance on the eve of today's Croydon North-West by-election, is the result of three months of tough bargaining between two seven-man negotiating teams, led by Mr David Steel for the Liberals and Mr William Rodgers for the SDP.

At a press conference in London Mr Rodgers described the

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Frank Johnson Back page

the guidelines drawn up by both parties for allocating seats as a unique non-aggression treaty between two political parties.

The parties, who intend to meet between to fight every seat in Britain, have agreed to get up 32 negotiating teams in England, the smallest covering 10 constituencies and the largest 26. There will be similar units in Scotland and Wales, although not completed. Separate talks are proceeding between the SDP and Scottish and Welsh Liberal parties.

Concessions have been made on both sides in the desire to bring about a swift agreement. In agreeing to "equality of opportunity" as Mr Rodgers described it, Mr Steel and his team risk upsetting party activists. Inevitably some of the 230 adopted parliamentary candidates and candidates in seats where the Liberals came second at the last election will have to stand down.

The SDP have given in on the size of the negotiating teams. Originally they wanted them to be larger than the average of 15 constituencies per unit that has finally emerged.

Mr Steel agreed with Mr Rodgers at the press conference that there would be some

sale that the next Labour government would renationalize the assets "on terms that will ensure no private speculative gains are made at the nation's expense".

Front-runners in the bidding are expected to include Shell, BP, Texaco, Conoco and Occidental Petroleum.

The shadow cabinet said the decision would gravely weaken British control over the development, depletion and disposal of North Sea oil and would unacceptably reduce the benefit



Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, launching Maritime England at Guildhall, London, yesterday. A national opportunity for optimism and fun was how Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, described this year-long celebration of Britain's nautical heritage. (Photograph by John Manning)

Unlawful killing papers go to DPP

By Lucy Hodges

To shouts and applause from the public gallery, the coroner's jury yesterday returned a majority verdict of unlawful killing at the end of the inquest into the death of Mr Winston Rose, the black, mentally handicapped man who died after a struggle with police officers in July.

The Director of Public Prosecutions' office said it would be asking the coroner for the papers in the case and would reconsider an earlier decision made not to prosecute anyone in connection with it.

Mr Rose, of Elm Road, Leytonstone, London, who was diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, died on his way to a mental hospital on July 13 after a violent struggle in his garden involving 12 policemen. Evidence was given that Police Constable John Young had the man in a headlock for two minutes. Mr Rose was pronounced dead as he lay handcuffed and face down in a police van.

The Rose family said yesterday that they were pleased with their recent verdict and were considering taking legal action against the three groups involved: Westminster Forest social workers, doctors, and the police.

Miss Harriet Harman, legal officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, called for immediate ex gratia compensation to be paid to the family by the Home Office. "This underlines the lamentable lack of supervision of the Metropolitan Police," she said.

The inquest lasted eight days and took evidence from 53 witnesses. The verdict was returned by a majority of eight to two.

The 10 jurors, four of whom were black, reached their verdict during three-and-a-half days of evidence. The coroner said the jury had been told twice to go to the court room at Walthamstow Town Hall to ask Dr Harold Price, the coroner, for guidance.

The jury foreman said he did not think that they would be able to reach a verdict more than a few days after the verdict. Earlier, he had made clear that what was perplexing the jury was the question of the degree of negligence involved and what would be the appropriate verdict if they found either negligence or gross negligence.

Dr Price became involved in legal argument with counsel for the family and for the Metropolitan Police. Earlier counsel for the family said Dr Price had misdirected the jury on what constituted unlawful killing. The coroner told the court: "I am not a High Court judge. I am very sorry. I am only a coroner."

In his summing up, Dr Price criticised social workers and doctors and made 13 recommendations for improvements in the Government, Planning and Land Act of 1980.

It does not appear from the judgment that the councils will get back the cash cut from their grants as Mr Heseltine can still reaffirm his original decision.

A spokesman for the Department of the Environment said it had noted the decision and was considering the judgment. It is thought that this is the first time one of Mrs Thatcher's Ministers has been criticised by judges for acting unlawfully.

The judges criticised Mr Heseltine's attitude before the Royal Assent in November and the exercise of his discretion on whether to reduce the rate support grant.

He had clearly decided to

DPP acts to revive Prosser case

By Craig Seton

A Bill of Indictment charging three prison officers with the murder of Barry Prosser, who died at Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, last year, will be sought tomorrow by the Director of Public Prosecutions only three weeks after a magistrate said there was insufficient evidence to send them for trial.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the DPP, originally said the case was closed after the magistrate's decision. His surprise change of mind was announced in a brief statement yesterday which said that he had now decided to apply for the Bill of Indictment after consultations with Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General.

If the Bill is granted, Mr Melvyn Jackson, one of the three prison officers, will have been charged three times with murdering Mr Prosser, aged 32. In February a magistrate discharged him rather than send him for trial and last month, together with Mr Howard Price and Mr Eric Smith, he was discharged again by the Birmingham stipendiary magistrate who decided there was insufficient evidence to send them for trial.

A Bill of Indictment is an unusual but not rare procedural device which allows a Crown Court prosecution without the necessity of a magistrate's court committal for trial. It requires a High Court judge's consent and that will be sought from Judge Farquharson QC in chambers at Leicester Crown Court this morning when he will consider written statements of evidence. The prison officers will all be represented.

If it is granted, Mr Jackson, aged 32, Mr Smith, aged 32, and Mr Price, aged 24, would be charged again by the police with the murder of Mr Prosser.

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Heseltine wrong to cut council cash, judges rule

By Richard Ford

Two appeal judges ruled yesterday that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, acted unlawfully in deciding to cut the rate support grant of six London boroughs by between £5.25m and £500,000.

In a three-hour reserved judgment, Lord Justice Ackner, sitting with Mr Justice Phillips in the Queen's Bench Divisional court, said that the Minister had not validly exercised his discretionary powers in making his decision to reduce grants to Brent, Camden, Hackney, Hounslow, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

He had refused to listen to new representations and his decision must be quashed. Lord Justice Ackner added that it would be open to the Minister, after considering the appellants' representations, to reach a decision he considered right within the terms of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act of 1980.

It does not appear from the judgment that the councils will get back the cash cut from their grants as Mr Heseltine can still reaffirm his original decision.

A spokesman for the Department of the Environment said it had noted the decision and was considering the judgment.

It is thought that this is the first time one of Mrs Thatcher's Ministers has been criticised by judges for acting unlawfully.

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He had clearly decided to

Minister attacks press over cuts

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, refused yesterday to give the total figure for the cuts that the Treasury wants in the 1982-83 estimates.

He said he had agreed to be interviewed on BBC radio "to put the record right" about the crucial Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday to discuss reductions in planned government spending, but MPs and journalists hoping for signs of more open government found his attempt at clarification disappointing. He said it was misleading to talk of "cuts", yet that must be the easiest way of describing what the Treasury wants.

"I cannot say what was said at the Cabinet meeting, but what I can do is to say that the reports of it that I have read bear absolutely no resemblance to what did occur," Mr Brittan told Sir Robin Day in the Radio 4 programme, *The World at One*.

When asked whether the Cabinet was not in serious disarray if ministers had come from the meeting and had leaked to the press "like a dripping bucket", he replied: "I don't know who has said what, and what has been invented and what is speculation, I know what did happen. I know the outcome."

"I know that the reports in the press are, with hardly any exception, totally wrong and, in fact, describe a meeting at which I was not present."

"There are going to be [spending] increases in some areas and reductions in others. I cannot give you the figures because we have not finally decided them, but the decision of the Cabinet yesterday is that the papers that the Chancellor and I put forward, and the figures in them, should be the ones that should be arrived at as closely as possible in the subsequent discussions. I can say that these figures involved actually spending more money than appears in the present plans published in the expenditure White Paper."

Mr Brittan said that the Treasury proposals for public spending in 1982-83 were discussed only in outline and the Cabinet decision was that in later discussions the aim would be "to arrive at totals as near as possible to those that we proposed."

In fact *The Times* said on Wednesday, although Mr Brittan did not refer to it, that the Prime Minister was reported to have asked her colleagues to "go away and do the best you can". That does not seem to be an inaccurate summing up of what Mr Brittan said happened.

The *Times* reported that the Treasury's request was for total cuts of about £5,000m in next year's plans, level of spending, to keep government spending in line with its medium-term strategy, and that that request met with firm resistance from the majority Cabinet ministers said afterwards that there was little chance of more than half the requested total being achieved.

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How to speak proper by the BBC

By Kenneth Gosling

A new BBC guide to the spoken word published today examines for the first time the way English is broadcast.

Listeners who fear that standards are dropping either lack an historical perspective or place too much weight on occasional lapses or on the mannerisms of individual broadcasters "and therefore fail to recognise that most of the English spoken on radio and the networks is pleasantly presented in a variety of styles," says the guide's author, Dr Robert Burchfield, chief editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

The guide is strictly a radio exercise (television is going its own way) and will be available to the public as well as to staff. It deals with words Dr Burchfield himself has difficulty with, such as "subsidence", which he admitted at a press conference he tends to pronounce differently every time he says it. (The guide places the accent on the second syllable, saying it as "side".)

Radio 3 announcers often have to say "opus" and Dr Burchfield rules that it takes a long "o" as in "opus". And although the "new pair", as Dr Burchfield calls them, on television news say "Soviet" with a short "o", he says it should be long.

Listeners' letters helped to show which words gave most offence when mispronounced, and these include "distributable" (stress second syllable), "government" (first "n" fully pronounced), "homework" (stress first syllable), "Others" (stress first syllable), "composite" (third syllable, but not like "sight"), "contribution" (stress second syllable), "contraversion" (first syllable), "delity" (first syllable), "see" (dispute), "jewellery" (second syllable), "jewellery" (not jewel-ry), "primarily" (first syllable stressed, others not), "research" (second syllable noun and verb), "spontaneity" (third syllable, as in "see") and "temporarily" (stress first syllable, others not).

As Dr Burchfield said yesterday: "The English language is like a juggernaut truck that just goes on regardless. The language proceeds in its own inimitable fashion and the way it is used has very little effect on it."

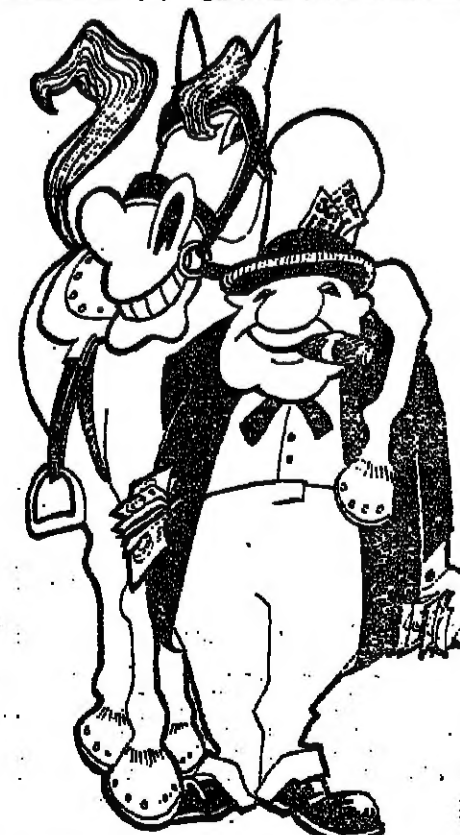
He was at pains to defend disjunctives against their critics. People like Dave Lee Travis, Simon Bates and Jimmy Young, apart from the mannerisms they assumed and their "dreadful intonations", spoke essentially the same as the rest of us, he said.

Dr Burchfield urges broadcasters to avoid cliché phrases such as "no way", "at the moment in time" and "at the end of the day", and words like "ongoing", "scenario" and "situation" where this is preceded by a noun or phrase.

As for regional accents, 50 years of broadcasting had not, he thought, cut them down at all.

The *Spoken Word*, a BBC Guide, by Robert Burchfield (BBC Publications and bookstalls; £1.95).

Good judges know the form



Good judges of property for 150 years

1981
1831

St Quintin
CHARTERED SURVEYORS
Vintners House, Queen Street Place, London EC4A 3DF
Tel: 01-236 4040

West End Office
30 Davenport Street, London W1X 3JB
Tel: 01-481 8838

1981
1831

Lucas union votes to ignore strike picket line

From Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent, Birmingham

With the official support of their union, 300 members of TASS, the white-collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, will today walk through the picket lines of three other unions on strike at two Lucas Aerospace factories in Birmingham.

It will be the second setback for the multi-union combined shop stewards' committee which called the strike by the work force of 1,500 last Wednesday in protest at the introduction of new technology without extra payment. The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU) ordered its members back to work the next day.

The TASS breakaway comes after a two to one vote at a mass meeting of its members yesterday. It was forced upon the full-time union officials by an unofficial return to work by 300 TASS members. They claimed that the decision to stay on strike had been taken at an unconstitutional meeting involving all the unions but dominated by the much bigger Transport and General Workers' Union and the engineering section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. The TASS men wanted each union to vote separately.

Soon after the group of TASS men passed through the picket lines yesterday Mr Bob Parsons, the union's full-time area officer, persuaded them to leave again for a hastily convened meeting of all TASS members. After the vote to return to work Mr Parsons said: "I recommended that they should stay out to maintain solidarity with the other unions. When they voted to return I told them they should all report for work with the backing of the union."

Protesters set to quit

Britain's longest anti-nuclear demonstration is almost over, after 162 days. Protesters at Luxulyan, Cornwall, yesterday agreed to leave the potential site of a nuclear power station "within 10 days".

But they said: "This is not the end of the battle" and promised further protests. The decision to end the protest came the day after Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, had refused to order Mr John Alderson, Devon and Cornwall's Chief Constable, to clear the demonstrators from the site as requested by the Central Electricity Generating Board. The chief constable had refused to move the demonstrators because he felt they were not breaking the law. The protesters said: "The Chief Constable has been put in an impossible situation and we have therefore decided to withdraw voluntarily."

UDR man killed on doorstep by 'postman'

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

The Provisional IRA yesterday murdered a part-time sergeant with the Ulster Defence Regiment in another demonstration of its increasing campaign of terrorism.

Mr Julian Connolly, a father of two, was shot by a man dressed as a postman at his home in the grounds of Bellevue Zoo, Belfast, where he was a foreman gardener.

The bogus postman walked up the drive and Mr Connolly was shot as he went to open the inner door. He was hit several times in the head and body.

Mr Connolly, a member of the UDR for eight years, came from England 17 years ago. Mrs Grace Bannister, Lord Mayor of Belfast, said: "He was a devoted family man and a valuable member of the council's parks department."

A Roman Catholic priest who was shot in the head and killed in the kidnapping of the Irish millionaire, Mr Bernard Dunne, at a remote farm on Sunday evening appeared shaken last night as he told of his experience.

Irish police spotted the masked men as they consulted outside a shed in Co Louth, close to the border, while Father Dermot McCarthy waited inside.

The kidnappers opened fire with rifles and the police replied with hand guns as Father McCarthy hid in the shed. He was arrested and released after questioning.

Yesterday he was at Mr Dunne's house in Castlenock, Dublin, comforting the family. He gave a message to the three men: "I know you to be shrewd, intelligent people. I appeal to you, in the name of God and even common sense, to cut your losses now. Release Ben (Bernard) and get out fast while you still have time."

Police believe Mr Dunne is being held north of the border. Two burnt-out vehicles used by the kidnappers have been discovered.

Father McCarthy, a close friend, said: "On Sunday I met the three kidnappers to try to negotiate for Ben's release."

"I had no money with me. They told me he was well and that he was more worried for himself. I scribbled a message to him, and the spokesman of the three said he would give it to him."

The kidnappers are demanding a £500,000 ransom, which the family is willing to give, but which the police are determined will not be handed over.

An Opposition attempt to move the writ for the Central Electricity Generating Board to clear the site was defeated in the House of Commons yesterday. The note claimed that an organization called MG, thought to stand for Meibion Gylfaur (the sons of Glendower) was responsible.

The note said: "As promised, we came back to finish our work of clearing our country of foreign citizens."

TUC uncovers far-left infiltration

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Bob Cooper, this being given official listing by the Government-appointed certification officer, Mr Alan Burridge. The report says: "There is an increasing level of activity by groups describing themselves as unemployed workers' unions. The general council is opposed to unemployed young people being organized separately outside the existing structures of the trade union movement, and has urged all affiliated unions to do all they can to retain and recruit more of the unemployed."

Recently, an organization based in Lowestoft and describing itself as the National Union of the Unemployed and Workers applied for recognition as a listed union, and this was granted.

Last month, the TUC was approached by an organization describing itself as the National Unemployed Workers' Movement concerning an inaugural

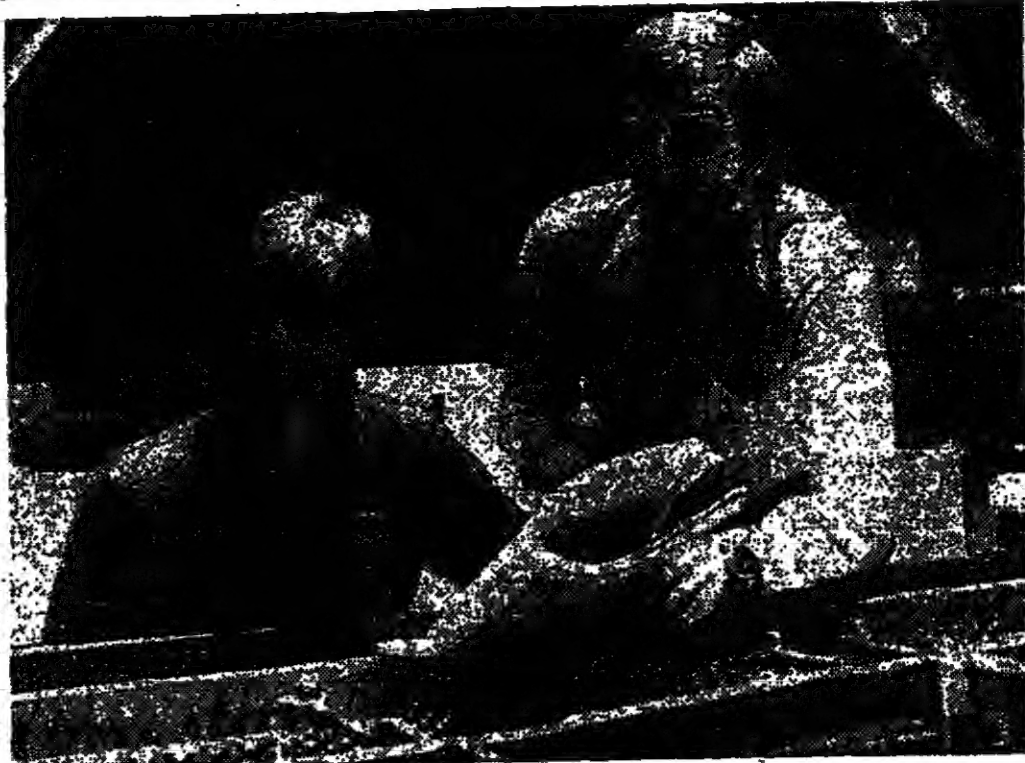
conference it is holding at the end of October.

Listing permits some tax concessions on benefits paid to members and some other rights. On both scores, the TUC's advice to unions is "do not have any dealings with these organizations". Congress policy is to recruit unemployed school leavers into existing unions.

Militants belonging to the Socialist Workers' Party are held responsible for the blacklisting of the Hull centre, and they are said to be active in a number of other towns and cities.

Officials of the TUC organization department in charge of the centres for the unemployed, privately say there are signs of ultra-left political activity in a number of areas of Britain.

Apart from the SWP, the Workers' Revolutionary Party is said to be exercising an influence in the TUC Centres for the Unemployed.



Family harmony: Maxim Shostakovich (right), the composer's son, and his own son Dmitri, a pianist, at the Festival Hall yesterday. (Photograph by Jonathan Player.)

Overdose killed baby, pathologist says

The pathologist who carried out the post-mortem examination of John Pearson, the Down's syndrome baby, said yesterday that a drug he had been given meant he would inevitably develop pneumonia.

Professor Alan Usher, told Leicester Crown Court that the administering of the drug DF118 was the greatest single factor in causing the baby's death. "I think that the development of pneumonia sooner or later was inevitable," he said.

Leonard Arthur, aged 55, a consultant paediatrician, has denied murdering the baby at Derby City Hospital in July last year.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, has alleged that Dr Arthur prescribed DF118 for the boy

after he was rejected by his parents. He said the drug was intended to kill him by impairing his breathing and suppressing his appetite.

Professor Usher, a Home Office pathologist, said he examined the body on July 5 last year.

He noticed a bloody froth coming from the baby's nose and mouth, and under microscopic examination found the lungs appeared to be infected. One cause of that could have been heart failure.

He said he certified the cause of death as bronchopneumonia due to lung stasis due to poisoning by dihydrocodeine (DF118).

He also felt the lack of treatment was a factor in John's death. "I think that had he been given antibiotics, he might well have survived."

Professor Usher said that dihydrocodeine was not recommended for infants because it could cause respiratory depression, to which newborn children were particularly susceptible.

He said the baby had not lived long enough to show signs of starvation.

The baby died three days after he was born at Derby City Hospital on June 28 last year. He was rejected by his parents, Mr John Pearson and his wife, Molly, of Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

Dr Arthur, of Royal Oak Cottage, Church Bryington, Derbyshire, has denied giving the baby DF118 to kill him. The case continues today.

IN BRIEF

Prior dashes ferry hopes

The Belfast-Liverpool ferry, Northern Ireland's last passenger sea link with England, looks increasingly likely to close on November 11.

Talks yesterday involving Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and O union representatives and politicians in Belfast produced no hope of public subsidies.

Footballer for trial

Bob Hazell, a Queen's Park Rangers footballer, and his brother, aged 17, and a youth, aged 16, were committed for trial at Birmingham Crown Court by city magistrates yesterday charged with going equipped to steal petrol.

Wasp sting death

Police Constable Emory Williams, aged 45, of Morden, London, died after a wasp in his beer stung his lip, a Croydon inquest was told yesterday. A verdict of misadventure was recorded.

Life sentence

An illegal immigrant, Mahmut Kiliç, aged 34, a Turkish cook, of Norfolk House, Erit, was jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for murdering his brother-in-law who tried to blackmail him for £1,000.

General 'improving'

Lieutenant General Sir Stuart Tringle, who has paid off his right leg amputated after an IRA bomb exploded under his car, was said to be improving at King's College Hospital yesterday.

Victory celebration

Admiral Sir James Eberle said a wreath on the quarter-deck of HMS Victory in Portsmouth harbour at a Trafalgar Day tribute yesterday.

New heart main 'fine'

Mr Bruce Anderson, aged 51, of Colchester, Essex, was given a new heart at Harlow Hospital yesterday. He was feeling fine, the hospital said.

Overseas selling prices
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Croydon campaign ends with lawyers' threat

By John Witherow

In a final, bitter twist to what has been a remarkably quiet campaign in the Croydon, North-West, by-election, the Labour Party accused the Liberal-SDP alliance yesterday of "gagging" two voters with letters from Lord Goodman's legal firm.

The Labour Party printed 5,000 edited copies of the letter, which was delivered to the two women on Monday after they had complained about the conduct of Mr William Pitt, the Liberal-SDP candidate in the south London constituency, when he was chairman of a local residents' association.

Typewritten on headed newspaper of Goodman Derrick and Co, solicitors, the letter said the firm acted for Mr Pitt and would start proceedings if the allegations were repeated and would consider serving an injunction on the two constituents to silence them.

A Labour Party leaflet published with the letter and delivered to houses in the constituency on the eve of polling said: "We... wonder why the Liberal candidate, who says he's always prepared to help anyone with a problem, should be so worried by these people's problems. As far as I am concerned Mr Pitt is definitely the kind of person we do not want."

Mrs Joyce Adams, aged 51, who received one copy of the Goodman letter, said: "I could not believe it when it arrived. But it does not frighten me. As far as I am concerned Mr Pitt is definitely the kind of person we do not want."

Mrs Adams was sent the letter two days after she made the allegations to Mr Pitt in the street. Mrs Ann Jones,

who received the other, identical letter, made similar accusations to the Liberal-SDP Party.

The distribution of the edited version of the letter by the Labour Party was described as despicable by Mr Pitt, who fought off a move some time ago to replace him as candidate with Mrs Shirley Williams. "If all they can do is use a solicitor's letter, then they cannot have much substance to their campaign", he said.

He added: "I have been falsely accused of misappropriating £29. These allegations are without foundation and I am sickened by them. It is not a question of being heavily handed by sending a solicitor's letter. These allegations have been going on for some time."

Mr Peter Chegwyn, his agent, said: "The electorate will recognize this as a smear. It could give us an extra couple of thousand votes."

It was pointed out that the Labour move came after the second opinion poll in three days predicted that Mr Stanley Boden, the Labour candidate, would come third. But, as has been the case throughout the campaign, all three leading parties said they were ahead and that their man was all but packing his bags for Westminster.

Local people have witnessed a remarkable string of national figures visiting the area in the past two weeks, including many former members of Labour and Conservative cabinets. Most Liberal MPs and about a dozen SDP MPs have travelled to Croydon.

The Labour Party has brought

in about fifty MPs including Mr Michael Foot, Mr James Callaghan, Mr Denis Healey, Mr Neil Kinnock, Mr John Silkin, and other shadow spokesmen. The party has avoided the embarrassing presence of Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, whose supplementary rate rise to finance price cuts on London Transport have made him thoroughly unpopular with many constituents.

The Conservative Party, by contrast, has fought what it calls an old-fashioned campaign, with fewer outsiders, although it has also welcomed about fifty MPs to help to make sure of wavering Tories.

The candidates in the by-election are: Mr John Butterfill, Conservative; Mr Stanley Boden, Labour; Mr William Pitt, Liberal-SDP Alliance; Mr John Foster, Ecology; Mr Josef Joseph, London Federation of the Self Employed; Mrs Marilyn Gillies-Carr, Independent; Mr Pro-Life; Mr William Roake, Public Safety; Mr Stephen Done, Anti-Common Market Free Trade; and Mr Nicholas Griffin, National Front.

The result at the last general election was Conservative (19,928), Labour (16,159), and Liberal (4,239). The by-election was caused by the death of Mr Robert Taylor.

Frank Johnson, back page



On the defensive: Mr Livingstone during the debate on the censure motion last night.

Livingstone beats off Tory censure motion

By Robin Young

Labour councillors on the Greater London Council last night closed round their leader, Mr Kenneth Livingstone, and enabled him to defeat a Conservative motion censuring him for his "extreme views" and "outrageous remarks" after the Chelsea bombing in which two people died.

The price of Mr Livingstone's reprieve was spent on a strong speech by Mr Illyd Harrington, his deputy leader, who said: "Today the GLC is extricating itself from Northern Ireland. It is beyond any doubt that the leadership of this council is now going to concentrate on the constitutional problems coming from central government. This meeting today is a watershed. We have taken a decision that we are going to get the GLC back on to a sane and sensible line."

That was interrupted by Sir Horace Cutler, the Conservative opposition leader, as meaning that Mr Livingstone had been obliged to give the Labour group an undertaking that he would "not give forth on every subject in future."

But Sir Horace, feared by Labour members, said that Mr Livingstone would remain a liability. "He is using the GLC as a doormat to wipe his dirty boots on," Sir Horace said. "He has generally used, misused and abused his position as leader of the council to further his extremist views. He is the worst thing to hit London since the plague, and in some ways akin to it. He must go now."

Mr Livingstone, who had earlier cheerfully countered a barrage of critical Conservative questions on his utterances on H-block hunger strikers, the IRA, the police, the royal wedding, and homosexuals, admitted in his own speech that it was not the council's job to discuss Northern Ireland. "That is for us to do as individual members of our political parties outside the chamber", he said.

But he complained that the extraordinary meeting of the council called by the Conservatives had turned into a travesty and a cheap charade. Instead of serious debate there had been a load of cheap tired jokes and political propaganda, he maintained.

Mr Livingstone claimed that he had been the victim of a campaign of press vilification, and that representatives of the newspapers who criticized him had refused to meet him in public debate on television. He disclosed that he is to report the Daily Mail to the Press Council, as well as the Sun, which described him as "the most odious man in Britain".

Mr Livingstone said that he had felt "total and utter despair" at the resumption of IRA bombing in London, and that he had never denied that the terrorists were guilty of murder. He had wanted to ask what could be done to stop it happening again, and there had been no support in the media for a debate about that.

Labour successfully carried an amendment to the Conservative motion and an early close to the debate. The Labour majority in the voting were five and six, the council's one Liberal member voting with the Conservatives.

The Labour amendment expressed "deep sense of outrage at terrorist acts of violence in the streets of London".

Motorfair exhibitors aim for £9m sales

By Peter Waymark

Motorfair, London's first car exhibition for four years, opened yesterday by Prince Michael of Kent, could become as much a fixture as the traditional Motor Show, now held every other year in Birmingham.

The organizers are hoping for between 400,000 and half a million visitors over the next ten days, and are planning further events to alternate with Birmingham.

Motorfair differs from the Motor Show in that cars can be sold to the public. A survey shows that eight leading manufacturers expect between them business exceeding £9m.

Motorfair has also been devised as a family entertainment and the Earls Court exhibition centre has been modernized at a cost of £10m.

Prince Michael directed his opening speech to the customers, urging them to tell manufacturers what they thought of their cars, and advising manufacturers to listen to what the customer said. Among those he called on was a smiling Mr John Z. De Lorean, in attendance to show off his controversial creation from Northern Ireland.

The De Lorean car is a scoop for Motorfair, since this is the first opportunity for people on the British mainland to see it, though they cannot buy it for another 12 months.

Another model new to Britain is the Hyundai Pony, a small South Korean car "fathered" by Mr George Turnbull, formerly of British Leyland and now head of Talbot.

The BL centrepiece is the recently launched Triumph Acclaim, while Vauxhall is showing its new Cavalier. Among continental novelties are the revised BMW 5 series and the Porsche 944, on sale in the spring.

For me, the highlight of Motorfair has been securing Ian Botham's autograph for my cricket-mad son.

Forty ideas to halt pollution of Britain

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain should extend her territorial waters to 12 miles without waiting for agreement on the draft convention on the law of the sea, Sir Hans Kornberg, chairman of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, said yesterday.

He said an extension of the three-mile limit was important to organizations whose interests were threatened by oil pollution. It extended the area in which offences committed by foreign vessels would be subject to British law and to claims for damage compensation.

It also gave more effective power for intervening in shipping incidents that threatened the coast.

Sir Hans, Professor of biochemistry at Cambridge University, was introducing one of the commission's most extensive studies in its 10-year history. It covers all aspects of oil pollution at sea that could threaten Britain's amenity or wildlife, either in the form of tanker accidents or North Sea oil production spillages, or from continuous small discharges from land-based operations like oil refining.

The report is reassuring about the likely long-term effects of oil pollution on fisheries, inshore marine life and sea birds, but contains more than 40 recommendations intended to help to avoid or combat large oil spills that can cause catastrophic short-term damage to beaches and amenities, economic damage to tourism and fisheries, and destruction of bird life.

Sir Hans criticized the inadequate charting of waters around the United Kingdom. Only about 20 per cent had been adequately or moderately surveyed to standards for safe tanker navigation, yet many areas in the North Sea and the West of Scotland were being rapidly developed for transporting oil.

He said action to overcome this deficiency had been thwarted by a decade of inter-departmental wrangling. Cash shortages meant that

the Ministry of Defence, responsible for hydrographic surveys, had to concentrate on surveys essential for defence, and naval surveys did not always meet civil needs.

The report says that more survey ships are needed specifically for civil needs. A fully equipped coastal survey ship costs about £14m. with the annual running costs of about £1m to £2m.

The risks involved in not making surveys cannot be measured, but the commission says "It is certain that even one accident that resulted in massive coastal pollution would lead to great public concern and would powerfully affect perceptions of the balance of cost and risk."

The report expresses concern about the storage of oil in a 200,000-ton, moored tanker, without motive power and fitted with segregated ballast tanks in the Fulmar Field in the North Sea.

The Department of Energy acknowledges that a collision involving that vessel could lead to substantial release of oil, but the department points out that the vessel is 250 kilometres from the nearest coast.

Eight report, Oil Pollution of the Sea, Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, Stationery Office, £10.25.

Sir Hans Kornberg: Concern over oil storage.

Loneliness of life with a doctor

From John Hiscock, San Diego

The plight of doctors' wives who are neglected by their husbands and turn to drink, drugs or suicide was highlighted by Sir John Walton, president of the British Medical Association, at the association's annual conference in San Diego yesterday.

The suicide rate among doctors' wives was five times higher than among the wives of accountants or architects, he said, and a recent investigation showed that 95 per cent of them felt neglected. They saw the husband's practice as a demanding mistress who always won.

The family home, he said, was a hornet's nest, with an ever-ringing telephone and patients calling at the house, frequently at unsocial hours. When the doctor came home he was tired and emotionally drained.

"He takes great pride in working an 18-hour day and is reinforced by the admiration of others", Sir John said. "No one tells him he is a fool. No one orders him to go to bed. No one counsels him that he may even be hurting his patients. Inevitably, when he finally gets home, he is a rather difficult person to cope with."

Earlier Sir John told the conference that the rate of alcoholism in British doctors was three times as high as the national average. Statistics showed that there were 2,000 to 3,000 alcoholic doctors in Britain and in one year alone 311 had died from cirrhosis of the liver.

Sex in marketing is blamed for epidemic.

The use of sex in marketing was a leading cause of the current epidemic of sexual diseases, the conference was told on Tuesday. Captain William Harrison, Director of the Clinical Investigation Centre at the United States naval hospital in San Diego, condemned what he termed "the blatant misuse of sexuality".

HOW TO AID DISRUPTIVE PUPILS

By our Education Correspondent

Disruptive pupils should be moved into special units or classes only as a last resort, according to a Schools Council report published today. It calls on schools to review their methods of teaching and controlling difficult pupils.

Disaffected pupils should not be seen as a broad apart, it says. If such pupils were to have a real chance of overcoming their difficulties, they must be kept in touch with the education being experienced by their more able and/or more motivated peers.

The report identifies two kinds of disruptive behaviour. There was the small number of pupils who appeared to have become totally alienated from school. It might be necessary to retain some separate provision for them.

But there was also the much larger number of pupils whose actions were milder, but more insidious and harder to combat.

Disruptive pupils, by Mary Evans, Schools Council. Longman Resources Unit, 33-35 Tanner Row, York, Yorkshire YO1 1JP, £1.40

Top-level vendetta against EXIT, trial jury told

By Frances Gibb

A man accused of one murder and helping people to commit suicide told a jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he was the victim of a top-level government vendetta involving the Prime Minister and Home Secretary against EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society. In a statement from the dock lasting more than three hours, Mark Lyons, aged 70, of Fairhazel Gardens, West Hampstead, said that the legal action had come about because the Director of Public Prosecutions had "got his nose bloodyed" over two previous euthanasia cases where prosecutions had not been brought.

One case had involved Mr Derek Humphry, a former Sunday Times journalist who wrote a book telling how he assisted in the death of his wife, who had cancer. The second involved Dr Colin Brewer, an EXIT member, who was accused of aiding and abetting suicide after admitting giving a terminally ill patient a lethal dose of drugs.

Mr Lyons accused the police officers handling the case against him of lies and vicious, spiteful and inhuman

treatment. He added he had been humiliated and degraded when in prison.

Nicholas Reed, general secretary of EXIT, of Sandford Walk, New Cross, is also accused of aiding and abetting and conspiring.

Mr Lyons said he was a spiritual healer. On the way home from school one day a voice said three times in his ear: "You will retire at 45." He called the voice his puppet master because it told him what to do. The puppet master explained to him how he received the spiritual powers to heal. He said to him one day: "There is a tiny little hole at the top of your head. It is no bigger than the width of a hair follicle but through that tiny hole we put the universal power in."

The puppet master explained to him how he received the spiritual powers to heal. He told him: "There is a tiny little hole at the top of your head. It is no bigger than the width of a hair follicle but through that tiny hole we put the universal power in."

Mr Lyons said he did not call him a guardian angel.

The hearing continues today.

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Pope's spring visit to Britain will go ahead

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

After months of uncertainty, it was confirmed yesterday that Pope John Paul II will visit Britain next May.

The attempt on his life, and the prospect that he would not make a full recovery, had created considerable doubt that the visit would take place.

Cardinal Hume of Westminster and Cardinal Gray of Edinburgh issued a statement yesterday in the light of a private audience with the Pope last Saturday. It had been indicated that Cardinal Hume's visit to Rome this month was the point at which a decision would be made, and planning for the visit was curtailed.

The two cardinals hint at this position when they state: "Our preparations for the visit will now proceed." The Pope had made a remarkable recovery and was in excellent spirits, but they did not intend to overload him with too many engagements. People are asked to be "sensitive to the need for preserving the good health of our visitor."

The visit will take place from May 28 to June 2, and the itinerary worked out before the assassination attempt included Canterbury, London, York, Coventry, Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Cardiff. While any revised itinerary is bound to include cities in Scotland and Wales, and the

Canterbury visit is regarded as sacrosanct, some of the places mentioned originally are likely to be disappointed.

This first visit of a Pope to Britain is still officially a visit to the Roman Catholic community, and not in any sense a state visit. Nevertheless the Government will treat it as a private visit of a Head of State, with the protocol that status commands. It is therefore likely to include one or more functions at which the Government will be the official host, and the Queen has already indicated that she wants to welcome the Pope personally.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has invited the Pope to Canterbury Cathedral, and a special canonical service is being organized for them both. It will not include a Roman Catholic Mass, a prospect that originally drew protests from some Protestant churchmen.

The official announcement in accordance with usual custom, is not expected for some months. Meanwhile a revised programme will be drawn up and submitted to the Vatican for approval.

The new limitations on the visit will reinforce the attitude in official Roman Catholic circles in England that papal visits have become too spectacular, and that this one should be more low key.

Diary, page 14

Gem raid filmed by hidden camera

Three armed men who escaped with gems worth £750,000 in a 45-second raid on jewellers in a London hotel were yesterday filmed on video tape.

A hidden camera filmed the thieves as they threatened staff with hand guns and ransacked the store safe at the Churchill Hotel, in the West End.

The tape shows the men entering, pressing guns against the heads of the staff and forcing them to lie on the floor.

Mr David Morris, the shop owner, said: "The pictures are excellent. They show the whole robbery and the men can be seen quite clearly."

One of the robbers pretended to be a customer and as the security door was opened to let him in, two more burst in. One was wearing a balaclava and the other had a thick beard and a deerstalker, pulled well down over the head.

The safe, containing mainly watches and rings, was opened to let him in, two more burst in. One was wearing a balaclava and the other had a thick beard and a deerstalker, pulled well down over the head.

Mr Morris said the police arrived within a minute of his telephone call, but the raiders had escaped through a side door to a red Cortina waiting in Berkeley Mews, behind the hotel.

The car was abandoned less than a mile away, and the police believe the gang switched to a Maxi which was later found parked a few hundred yards away from the Cortina.

Race adviser denies left-wing bias

By Robin Young

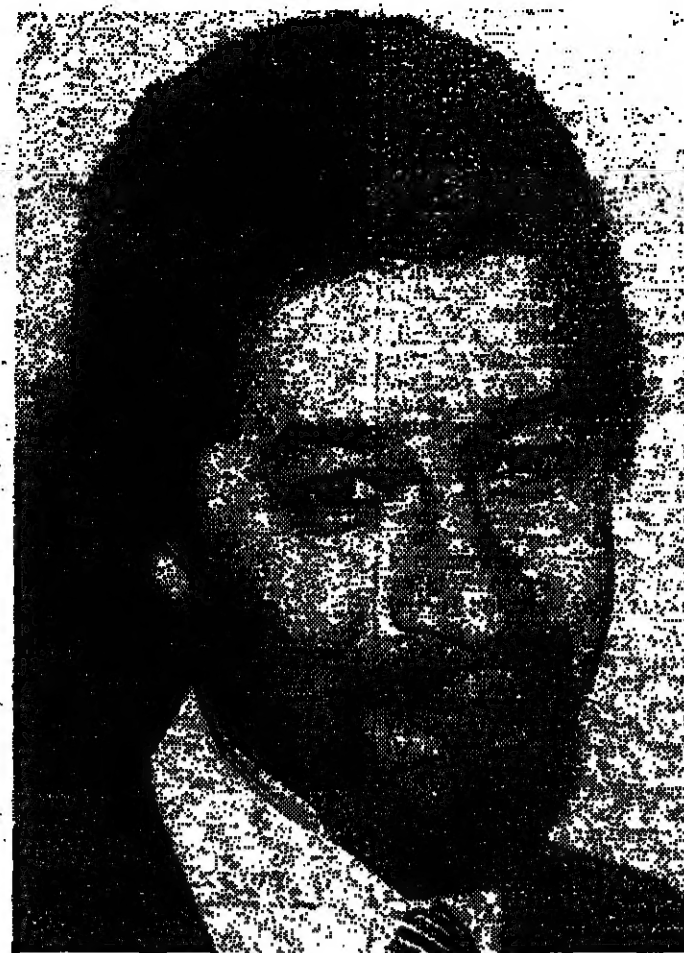
Mr Herman Ouseley, who has been chosen as the Greater London Council's first race relations adviser with a salary of £22,000 a year, denied yesterday that he was a left-winger and follower of Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the GLC leader.

He said yesterday: "It is important, because of reports that have already appeared in the press, to say that my politics are neutral, I am only a left-winger to the extent that I have played football in that position sometimes, and I have never even met or spoken to Ken Livingstone in my life."

During a short lunch break at his present work, with Lambeth Borough Council, Mr Ouseley said that he saw his job as one of correcting inequalities and breaking down unfair systems and structures. "When you are talking about racism, every institution in Britain could do with a complete shake-up. In that respect the GLC needs to be turned upside down."

Mr Ouseley, aged 36, was born in Guyana and came to Britain in 1957. He attended the William Penn comprehensive school in Dulwich, and then joined the former Middlesex County Council as a junior management trainee. In 18 years as a local government officer, he has worked in social services, managing old people's homes, and in community relations, before becoming Lambeth's race relations adviser two years ago.

At Lambeth he has campaigned to make the local authority's own jobs more accessible to black people, instituting an audit of employ-



Mr Ouseley: 'GLC needs to be turned upside down on race'

ment which revealed, for example, that of Lambeth's 154 dustmen only four were black. "We had some success in making lower-level jobs more open to black people, despite some union opposition," he claimed yesterday.

Mr Ouseley said traditions and practices of local authorities had grown up over years, and were designed for an all-white community. There would be resistance to change, and local authorities must have a commitment to tackle it.

Ban sought on MPs' jobs outside Commons

By Ian Bradley

A former Labour MP called yesterday for legislation to prevent MPs' from holding substantial outside interests. Mr Max Madden, former MP for Sowerby and a member of the House of Commons Select Committee set up in 1976 to investigate the involvement of certain MPs in the Poulson case, was commenting on statements which appear in a book on the case published today.

The Book of Corruption, (Granada, £12.50) quotes a report by the late Mr John Cobb, QC, then the Director of Public Prosecutions' leading counsel, saying that the "reprehensible conduct" of the late Mr Reginald Maudling would have made him liable for prosecution for corruption had he been a civil servant. As an MP he was able to escape prosecution.

Mr Madden, who is now director of publicity in the Labour Party, said: "My recollection is that there was a good deal of disagreement about the interpretation of the statutes. The view of the law officers was that a strict interpretation of the law was that MPs could not be held liable for prosecution for corruption. My own position was that that view could and should have been tested."

"MPs should be required to withdraw from substantial outside interests. As parliamentary salaries and conditions have improved, that seems a wholly reasonable demand."

The committee found that the behaviour of Mr Maudling and Mr Albert Roberts, Labour MP for Normanton, was inconsistent with the standards that the House of Commons was expected to expect from its members. It also found that Mr John Cordle, former Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, had committed a contempt of Parliament. In a debate in July, 1977, the commons refused to accept the committee's report.

The difficulty in prosecuting a Member of Parliament for an offence under the various Acts dealing with corruption is that he does not fall under any of the definitions of persons who may become liable (Our Legal Correspondent writes).

The Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act, 1889, for instance, deals with corruption while holding office with a public body. The term "public body" is defined to include local authorities and various boards, commissioners or other bodies dealing with ratepayers' moneys. An MP would clearly not be within that description.

The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1906, is designed to deal with a corrupt "agent", who is defined as any person employed by or acting for another. The Act specifically goes on to state that "a person serving under the Crown" is an agent.

Youth gets life for knife attack on police

From Our Correspondent

Leeds A youth aged 17 who was sentenced yesterday morning to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure for killing a policeman, was later given a life sentence for wounding another officer.

Leeds Crown Court was told that Sergeant Michael Hawcroft was knifed 20 times as he struggled with the youth, and died from his injuries. His colleague, Inspector Jim Newsham, was also stabbed as he tried to arrest the youth.

John Edwards, 17, of Millers Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, admitted murdering Sergeant Hawcroft, aged 31, and wounding Mr Newsham, aged 46. His plea of not guilty to Mr Newsham's attempted murder was accepted.

Mr Humphrey Potts, QC, for the prosecution, said Mr Long, a market worker, set out with a friend on a day "joy riding" expedition in Bradford last March. He was armed with a sheath knife and a heavy metal bar and told his friend: "If we get chased, I'll either hit them on the head with the iron bar or stick the knife into them."

The youths were spotted as they attempted to take a Ford Capri car. "Long was chased into an enclosed area by the sergeant, and while the officer attempted to detain him, he was subjected to a vicious attack with a knife from which he died."

The inspector was some distance away, chasing the other youth when he heard screams. He went as fast as he could and when he got there the accused was still attacking the sergeant.

Mr Newsham was stabbed three times in the chest by the youth for about eight minutes until reinforcements arrived. He later told police colleagues that he bit his lip to avoid fainting.

Mr Paul Kennedy, QC, for the defence, said Mr Long had lost his self-control. "The most likely explanation is fear. It was a frenzied attack, but not a cold-blooded murder."

He said that even as he was being driven away in a police van Mr Long had to be bit and handcuffed to restrain him.

John Long: Vicious assault on sergeant

Girl's rape story fantastic, dentist said on tape

A jury heard a tape recording yesterday in which a dentist described as fantastic a girl's claim that he had sexual intercourse with her in his surgery.

The dentist, aged 28, has denied raping the girl, an auxiliary nurse aged 19, in the dentist's chair after extracting her tooth and raping her at her home the next day, January 6.

Nottingham Crown Court was told that on January 7 the girl telephoned the surgery and the dentist came to her home, where the police had hidden a tape recorder.

The girl told the dentist she felt certain she had had intercourse in his surgery after being drugged with

valium, and that she had been medically examined. On the tape the dentist said he had gone to the girl's home the previous day because he was worried about her condition. He said he rolled her over on the bed because he was anxious about her lying on her back and thought she might choke.

Cross-examined by Mr Igor Judge, QC, for the defence, the girl agreed she told the dentist lies during the tape recording to get him to make admissions.

The girl denied a suggestion by the defence that in her bedroom she took off her nightdress with the dentist's help and consented to sex.

The case continues today.

DETECTIVE CLEARED OF ALLEGATION

From Our Correspondent

Manchester Allegations against a detective were withdrawn at Trafford Magistrates' Court, Manchester, by the Director of Public Prosecutions yesterday.

Det Constable Alan Plant, aged 33, was suspended from duty six months ago after being charged that he and others conspired in 1977 and 1978 to pervert the course of public justice in that they should act contrary to their public duty as police officers.

Mr Frederick Marr-Johnson, for the DPP, said yesterday that he had been instructed to withdraw the charge against Mr Plant.

Mr Jeffrey Wilner, for the defence, said there could be no more serious charge against the police officer. "This is a complete vindication of the innocence he has always maintained."

CARBON COPY JEWEL RAID

Four gunmen who escaped with gold and silver and jewellery worth £50,000 after tying up a jeweller, his wife, son and daughter, were being sought by the police yesterday.

The raid on the home at Reigate, Surrey, was a carbon copy of raids on the homes of two other jewellers — one at Pyrford, near Woking, and the other at Ashdown, Surrey — a short time ago.

Drugs trial delayed

A drugs smuggling trial at the Central Criminal Court, which is nearing the end of evidence for the prosecution after a month, was halted yesterday because of the absence of a woman juror who has a cold.

Judge Mason, QC, who is unable to sit today because of public duties, adjourned the trial until tomorrow.

The case arises from the landing of 15 tons of cannabis valued at £20m on the Scottish island of Kerrera in December, 1979.

Dennis Marks, aged 36, of Flans Road, Chislehurst, Morgan, aged 35, of Oaklands Avenue, Putney, and Morgan Prentiss, aged 41, a Californian yacht broker of Grosvenor Crescent Mews, Hyde Park, pleaded not guilty to smuggling and possessing cannabis.

BABY LEFT ON DOORSTEP

Police were yesterday trying to trace the mother of a two-day old baby girl found abandoned on a doorstep in Stirland Road, Paddington, on a doorstep. The baby was wrapped in a tablecloth and covered with a sheet of plastic.

She was taken to Paddington Green Children's Hospital where her condition was said to be comfortable. The girl, who is black, was born at home in an unattended birth.

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1974:	First computer-based communications system for a public transit company, installed in Michigan, U.S.A.
1975:	First comprehensive airport security system in Britain, at London Heathrow.
1978:	Acquisition of CFM, Britain's largest independent computer maintenance company. IAL Stratus microprocessor based communications system launched.
1979:	New Scotland Yard order IAL Stratus. British Rail buy IAL Medusa data network management system. Houston office opens. Unit formed with Cap Gemini Sogefi, international software group.
1980:	27m data communications network order from Hellenic Building Society. Major Malaysian aviation services project.



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Police driver who killed cyclist keeps his licence

From Arthur Osman Oxford

A Thames Valley police constable was fined £100 yesterday after being found guilty of causing the death of a student aged 18 by reckless driving, while answering an emergency call. Judge Mynett QC, told him there were special reasons for not disqualifying him but his licence would be endorsed.

"You have suffered dreadful punishment and I take that into account. I very much hope that your future in the police force will not be jeopardized."

Mr Martin Reynolds, for the defence, said there is a very high risk PC Wood, aged 26, a married man who now lives at Russell Close, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, will not be retained in the police force.

After the hearing at Oxford Crown Court, it was revealed that PC Wood faces a civil action for damages. Mr Christopher Bowler, a solicitor for the dead cyclist, Mr Gregory Dixon, said the damages action would now be launched.

He added that some weeks ago, he wrote to the Home Office to ask how many accidents involving police officers in the United Kingdom over the past three years. He had received no reply.

Mr Reynolds said the verdict had irreparably damaged PC Wood's career. His family had been caused great stress and PC Wood had given up his private car.

In his desire to do his job and help the community he did so over-zealously. It was a case of no more than a few seconds of error. "Those

moments will live with him for the rest of his life."

PC Wood was driving a police van, with two colleagues as passengers, in Woodstock Road, Oxford, last February on his way to a disturbance at a motel. He overtook a car and then drove the wrong side of the road at an estimated 50 to 60 mph. Mr Dixon, was hit by the van while turning right, after signalling correctly.

In evidence PC Wood said it was his intention to go on the nearside of the bollards. He saw the cyclist only when he was close to them and that caused him to go on the offside.

"I had a split second to make a decision. I realized with horror he was going to turn. Once I was committed to the offside I did everything in my power to avoid him."

Later he said: "I make no bones about it, going to the offside of the bollards is a dangerous move. I believe it was the safest thing to do, having overtaken a car at speed."

All prosecutions against police officers have to be authorized by the Director of Public Prosecutions (Our Legal Correspondent writes). In 1980 there were 883 prosecutions of police officers for motoring offences, of which 785 resulted in convictions. However, the DPP's department does not have separate figures for offences committed by off-duty police, in their own cars. Driving offences committed as a result of giving chase are a small proportion of the total, and those which led to death are even fewer.

London boroughs oppose GLC road building cuts

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

London's 32 boroughs came out in opposition yesterday to the Greater London Council's plans to cut road building and ban heavy lorries in central London.

A new study by the London Boroughs Association declares that there will be no proper solution to London's lorry problem until there is an adequate road network. Echoing the Parliamentary transport committee's view that London's roads are a "national scandal", the association

urges both the Government and the GLC to speed up the necessary improvements in London's road system.

While that is being done, interim measures to reduce lorry nuisance are called for in the association's study. Those include a night ban on lorry movements where the road system is not being improved; standardization of lorry restraint measures throughout London and better publicity so drivers know and understand them.

Merseyside ideas sought by Heseltine

From John Chartres Liverpool

There is no magic wand that can be waved to solve the pressing unemployment and economic problems of Merseyside. Mr Michael Heseltine said yesterday.

The whole community and the local authorities, private industry and commerce and local people — must put forward ideas, he said. He hoped to enlist the enthusiasm of them all.

Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was visiting Merseyside for the first time since Mrs Margaret Thatcher asked him to spend a year taking a special interest in the area.

He told reporters at the Royal Liver Building that he would visit the area very frequently and introduced Mr Eric Sorensen, regional director for the environment and transport department in the North-west, as the leader of the Merseyside Task Force.

Mr Sorensen, aged 39, a Keele University graduate, will lead the coordinating body set up to tackle the difficulties of an area which has been losing 10,000 jobs a year for the past five years and which suffer the Toxteth riots of July.

His team of five fellow civil servants from the environment department, the Department of Industry and the Manpower Services Commission, will be joined by representatives from local authorities and the private sector.

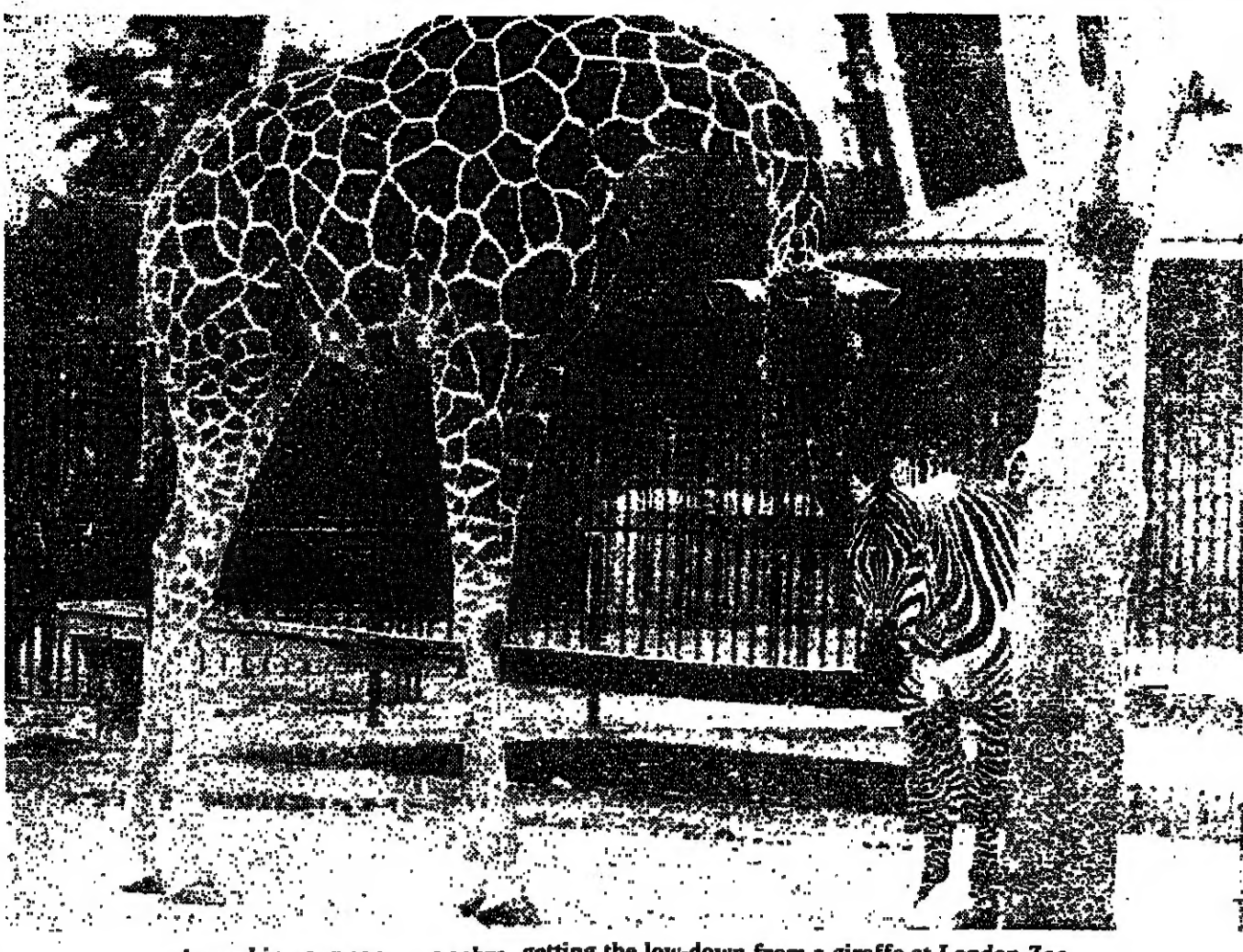
Asked about the prospects of more Government money for Merseyside, Mr Heseltine said vast sums were already being spent, but if good ideas come forward extra cash might be available to support them.

"The door is not locked, but it will need a very heavy shoulder to push it open", he said.

Policeman beaten up in Toxteth attack

A young policeman was recovering in hospital last night after being attacked by a gang in Toxteth (our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

Constable Michael Harvey, aged 23, was on foot patrol with a colleague on Tuesday night when he suffered a broken jaw and cuts after being hit by a brick, beaten to the floor, kicked and punched. His colleague was unhurt.



A word in your ear... a zebra getting the low-down from a giraffe at London Zoo

BBC promises fewer repeats

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC yesterday released details of its plans for the next three years, which will form part of its case to the Home Secretary for a £50 licence fee.

They include:

- BBC 2 opening regularly earlier in the evening with programmes for children and the general audience, and staying on the air later;
- More home-produced drama and fewer American imports;
- Fewer peak-time repeats;
- Restoring afternoon programmes on BBC 1 for shift workers, housewives and the unemployed;
- More programmes for local audiences in the English regions, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, including some in Gaelic and Welsh;
- More Ceefax subtitles of programmes for the hard of hearing;
- Better reception for people in remote areas.

Radio's highest priority is to improve reception. Other developments would include: Restoring broadcasting hours cut in the last two years

- Radios 1 and 3 both lost programmes;
- Strengthening the BBC Symphony and BBC Northern Symphony orchestras;
- More regional and community radio in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland;
- More local radio stations in England.

In the next three years, BBC television needs to spend £180m on capital projects and BBC radio plans to spend £110m. Most of the money will go on replacing old equipment and improving radio reception.

The Government, believed to be about to announce the new licence fee, is understood to be giving serious consideration to "over the counter" monthly payments, for example nine at £5 or 12 at £4 and 10 at £5 if the full figure requested is conceded.

Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, who is due to retire next October when he is 60, will hand over to his successor on August 1, when he goes on leave.

Applications to become the tenth director-general are

being invited this week and should be in by November 17.

The salary is not advertised, but the BBC's annual report shows the corporation has one employee earning between £35,000 and £40,000 a year, and that must be the director-general.

The most obvious candidates are the managing directors of television and radio — Sir Ian did both jobs before becoming director-general.

Mr Alasdair Milne, who runs BBC television, is 51 and has been deputy director-general since last year. He joined the BBC in 1954 and spent some years with the Tonight programme. He also served as controller, BBC Scotland.

Mr Aubrey Singer, aged 54, took over radio in 1978 after four years as controller of BBC 2. He joined the BBC in 1949.

Another possible choice is Mr David Webster, former director of public affairs and now the BBC's director, United States.

Leading article, page 15

Grass-roots may wreck farm unions' merger

By Hugh Clayton Agriculture Correspondent

Leaders of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers are worried that a rescue plan involving a merger with a larger union may fail because of grassroots opposition.

A plan for absorption by the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) the largest union in Britain, will be put to the 75,000 members of the agricultural union in a ballot before Christmas.

If the merger proceeds, it will be the largest union takeover by the TGWU since it absorbed the National Union of Vehicle Builders more than 10 years ago.

The agricultural union was founded more than 70 years ago it is the only rural based trade union in Britain. Its subscription income this year will be more than £1.5m.

The plan agreed with the TGWU is to create a new national trade group based at the present headquarters of the farm union in London.

The group will include most of the present agricultural union members plus the 3,000 farm workers organized by the TGWU in England and Wales. It will also include farm worker members of the TGWU in Scotland, where the agricultural union organizes only in food factories.

The post of national secretary of the new group would be offered to Mr Jack Boddy, now general secretary of the agricultural workers. His union's finance department would merge with that of the transport union and his national executive would be turned into a national committee of the transport union, with the addition of four members now in the TGWU.

NATIONALISTS DENY CHARGE

Mr James Sillars, a former MP, and five other Scottish Nationalists yesterday denied breaking a window at the old Royal High School in Edinburgh, once intended for a Scottish Assembly. At Edinburgh Sheriff Court the trial was fixed for January 26.

The six are Mr Sillars, of Balcarres Court; Iain More, of Eyre Crescent; McLean, of Arden Street; Graeme Purves, of Howe Street (all Edinburgh); Douglas Robertson, of Westbourne Gardens, and Stephen Butler, of Langlands Road (Both Glasgow).

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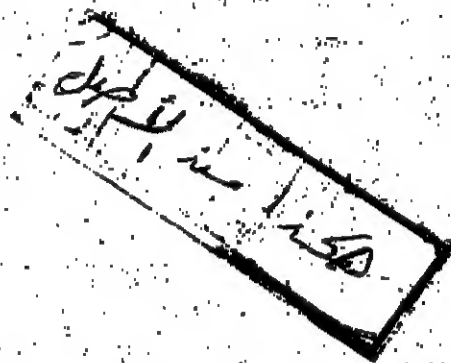
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Feeding the starving millions heads North-South summit agenda

From Melvyn Westlake, Cancun, Mexico, Oct 21

Hunger and the problems of inadequate food production will be given a high priority by the 22 leaders of rich and poor countries attending the summit meeting in Cancun, Mexico, today and tomorrow. Nothing provides more glaring evidence of Third World poverty than the existence of widespread hunger. Few issues are more important to the summit.

The commission under the chairmanship of Herr Willy Brandt, whose report on economic relations between rich and poor countries was published last year, saw "no more important task before the world community than the elimination of hunger and malnutrition in all countries". The 22-nation summit is the first fruit of the Brandt Report.



Britain, France, West Germany, Canada and Japan. In spite of the general recognition that the food problem needs urgent attention, it has not made it any easier to get agreement on how to proceed. Part of the difficulty is that there is not a single food problem, but a number of related and overlapping problems.

with population growth in a large number of Third World countries, but also that large numbers of people do not have enough money to buy food even when it is available. These problems are linked to questions of land reform and income distribution in the Third World, as well as international questions about food security reserves and restrictive food trade policies of North America and the European Community. It has proved impossible to get agreement on an international wheat pact.

To a limited extent the world food situation appears less dire today than at the time of the food crisis of 1973-74. Globally, food production has grown marginally faster than population since the mid-1970s. Consumption per person has been increasing in many parts of the Third World. But in perhaps 40 other countries average consumption is going down. Sub-Saharan Africa has been particularly badly hit.

The Rome-based Food and Agricultural Organization estimates that the number of people in the world that are "severely undernourished" has risen from around 360 million in 1969-71 to almost 490 million in 1980 (excluding China). But the scale of the problem is bigger than that suggests. Some 800 million people are thought to be "destitute" in the Third World today and most of them, by definition, cannot afford an adequate diet. As many as 12 million



President Reagan (left) being welcomed by President Lopez Portillo of Mexico when he arrived for the Summit.

children under the age of five may have died of hunger in a single year during the later 1970s.

Growing populations and rising incomes in some better-off developing countries, together with slowly rising, or in some cases declining, production, means that the Third World as a whole will become an even bigger importer of food in coming years.

There is broad agreement that the developing countries need to undertake considerable investment in agriculture to improve production.

Such proposals for dealing with the world's food problems have been on the international agenda for a long time. The Cancun summit provides the opportunity for those attending to demonstrate that they really intend to eradicate mass hunger.

Arrigo Levi: A personal view

Omens for democracy still good

The two Socialist victories of 1981, in France and Greece, together with the split in the British Labour Party and the signs of a crisis in West Germany's Social Democratic Party, have altered in unforeseen ways the traditional picture of the European left.

Two more Socialist parties are in power, both Mediterranean countries, which had been ruled for a long time by the right. In both countries, although more so in the case of Greece, there were fears that the victory of the left might endanger the cohesion of the West and upset the balance of power.

The French Socialist President has been elected with Communist votes and has Communist Cabinet ministers, while the new Greek Prime Minister has proclaimed in the past semi-neutralist tendencies and has promised to loosen Greece's ties with the EEC and Nato.

In the case of France, the fears proved unjustified. President Mitterrand has quickly become one of the closest European friends of President Reagan. There are valid reasons to believe that the fears will prove excessive in the case of Greece as well. The Greek-Turkish conflict is a very powerful factor in favour of the continuation of Greek ties with the United States, Nato and the EEC.

As against these risks, we can hope that in the end two more European democracies may achieve a change of government, moving from one end of the political spectrum to the other,

without endangering democracy itself. We need more time to say so with full confidence, as far as Greece is concerned, but the omens are not unfavourable.

If our present hopes are not proved false, Western democracy in general will be strengthened as a result of the two Socialist victories of 1981. The superiority of democratic institutions over Communist institutions as vehicles for political change will be shown once again: consider Poland.

These two Socialist victories have also given European socialism a new face. Let us remember that Pasok, the Greek party, is not a member of the Socialist International, but it has strong links with all southern European socialist parties.

So, at present, socialism is progressing in the south, while it is facing difficulties in the north. And there remains only one important country in Europe, Italy, where socialism is not the Number One party of the left.

Even the hopes and ambitions of Italian Socialists have been strengthened by the Socialist victories in France and Greece. The leader of PSI, Signor Bettino Craxi, believes that the next elections in Italy, whenever they take place, will change Italy's political landscape.

It would be nice if the new emerging pattern of the European left were a well-ordered one, showing clear links between the policies followed by the various parties and their electoral

fortunes. Unfortunately, it is not so at all. The crisis of the Labour Party in Britain followed the failure of traditional Social-Democratic domestic policies, and was accompanied by the rise of near-neutralist tendencies. In West Germany, Herr Schmidt's Social Democrats are in a bad shape in spite of the undeniable success of their traditional domestic policies.

In France, success rewarded a strongly anti-Soviet foreign policy and a strongly leftist domestic economic policy. In Greece, Pasok won thanks to a leftist domestic programme, as well as a tendentially neutralist foreign policy.

Finally, in Britain and Italy the new alliances of moderate Socialists and Liberals hope to win elections with a strong pro-Western platform and a traditional social-democrat domestic programme, while in Spain we have a different Socialist combination of domestic moderation and a foreign policy approaching Pasok's though much more pro-European.

Does all this make sense? Not to me, unfortunately. I see no single emerging trend in the European left, each party behaving as if it were on a different planet. But the vagueness of the word "socialism" is such that the victories of the left in France and Greece may help all sorts of Socialists and Social Democrats elsewhere (will they help Labour or the SDP in Britain?). There is no such thing like democracy, for an interesting and ever-changing world.

Weatherman suspect held for killing policemen

From Michael Leasman, New York, Oct 21

Miss Katherine Boudin, a radical activist who has been sought by police for 11 years, was arrested yesterday and charged today with murdering a security guard and two policemen 25 miles from New York. The policemen were killed at a road block after they stopped a car in which Miss Boudin was a passenger.

A member of the Weather underground movement, which has apparently been defunct for several years, Miss Boudin disappeared in 1970 after a terraced house in Greenwich Village was destroyed in an explosion. Police said she had been making bombs in the house, from which she was seen fleeing naked. Three people died in the incident.

Another woman in the house at the time, Miss Cathylyn Winters, was sentenced last year after 10 years in hiding. She was sentenced to three years in prison for criminally negligent homicide. The house belonged to her father.

Miss Boudin is the daughter of Mr Leonard Boudin, a lawyer known for his defence of radicals. He defended several members of the Black Panthers and took part in the notorious trial of the "Chicago Seven" on charges stemming from the Democratic Convention of 1968. Mr Kenneth Grietz, District Attorney of New York's

Rockland County, said today that Mr Boudin "can't believe his daughter's been arrested."

Yesterday's incident began at about 4 pm as three guards in a Brink's armoured van were collecting \$1.6m from the Naumet National Bank, in a shopping plaza at Nanuet, New York. Brink's is a security firm specializing in the collection of valuables.

Four people opened fire from a van on the guards, one of them was killed and another seriously wounded. The killers drove away with the money.

At a road block police stopped the van to question the driver. As they did so, two men emerged firing automatic weapons. Two policemen were killed, and a third was wounded. Miss Boudin, who was arrested at the scene, identified herself as Barbara Edson.

It is not clear whether the robbery was an attempt to raise money for radical causes. One report suggested that Miss Boudin may have been handcuffed in the van, encouraging initial speculation that she was a hostage. The Weather Underground 'was once called the Weathermen, a name deriving from the words of a Dylan song of the late 1960s: "You don't need a Weatherman to know which way the wind blows". It was founded in 1969 as an activist offshoot of Students For a Democratic Society.

TERRORISTS MURDER DETECTIVES

From Peter Nichols, Rome, October 21

A Special Branch police officer well known for his zeal in combating right-wing terrorism was shot with his assistant in an ambush today near Rome. Both men were killed by heavy bursts of armour-piercing bullets from automatic weapons.

Later a man telephoned several daily newspapers, claiming the killing on behalf of the Armed Revolutionary Nuclei, a right-wing group believed to have been behind the Bologna station bombing in August last year.

Fragmentary eye-witness accounts gave the impression of at least seven assailants with three cars. The officer, Captain Ranco Strullu, aged 26, came from Nuoro, a centre for Sardinian bandits. His colleagues connect his killing with his fearless activities against extreme right-wing violence. He had received anonymous threats.

POLICE KILL RIGHT-WING GUNMEN

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 21

Two right-wing extremists were killed in Munich last night in a gun battle with police who stopped five of them in a car as they were allegedly on their way to raid a bank.

Another extremist and a policeman were badly hurt in the fight, during which the right-wingers repeatedly rammed the police car and threw a grenade. The other two were arrested. Police said they found grenades, firearms and ammunition in the car. Herr Gerold Tandler, the Bavarian Interior Minister, told a press conference later they were evidently planning a big bank raid in another city to raise funds.

The five, four Germans and a Frenchman, aged between 18 and 24, were believed to be linked to the small Munich-based right-wing group called the People's Socialist Movement of Germany (VSBG).

Zaire to pay its telephone bill in easy instalments

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Oct 21

Diplomats from Zaire and officials of the Belgian Foreign Ministry are preparing a new bilateral agreement for signature in the next few days. It is not, however, an agreement of the usual type about, say, trade or military cooperation. It is an agreement on paying the Zaire Embassy's telecommunications bill in Brussels.

With the Belgian Government unable to agree on anything of real importance pending the general election, the matter of the bill was put top of the agenda for the last Cabinet meeting. It is a bill of not inconsiderable proportions.

In 1960, not without some difficulty, The old Belgian Congo achieved independence

and the proud new Republic of Zaire opened its main overseas embassy in Brussels, the capital of the old colonial masters. As with any former colony, its main opening on the outside world was through the door of the European mother country.

The telephone and telex link between Brussels and Kinshasa thus hummed briskly, with trade, aid and diplomacy largely reliant on it. But when the Belgian Telephone Authority (RTT) presented its first bill to the embassy it remained unpaid.

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From Trevor Fishlock, Colombo, Oct 21.

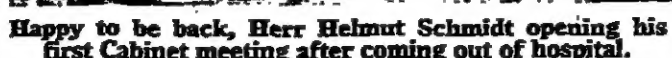
The President, who is fond of history, has made it clear that he welcomes the Queen as the last monarch of Sri Lanka. She was Queen of Ceylon until the island became a republic 10 years ago and was the last in a line of

Although perfectly peaceful on the surface, Sri Lanka is still experiencing some of the communal tension that this summer erupted into violence. The state of emergency through which the Government restored order was renewed in Parliament today

From Harry Deblins
Madrid, Oct 21

The high rates of abstention were no surprise. A number of politicians expressed satis-

Senior Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, who took office after the February coup, can constitutionally run out his team's full four-year term until the spring, 1983, and has publicly said that this is what he intends to do. But



From Peter Norman, Brussels, Oct 21

Interlining, an EEC jargon word that describes the ability of passengers to switch from

The Commission's latest proposals are unlikely to be discussed by EEC transport ministers before next summer, but they are important in that they flank the Commission's campaign for freer competition.

**From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, October 21**

Giving their opinion after the judge had summed up the evidence in the week-long hearing, the assessors said they believed the witnesses who said they had identified Mr Astles as the man who fired a pistol at Henry Mussi, a dead fisherman. They rejected Mr Astles's evidence that he was not in the area at the time and that he had never carried a gun while heading an anti-corruption squad for Amin.

By Gabriel Ronay

The World Peace Council, based in Helsinki, is a pro-Moscow front organization, created at the height of the Cold War on Stalin's orders to orchestrate the work of individual peace organizations.

impelled to embark on one of its periodic "peace offensives", "wrathful workers" obediently signed petitions, attended works protest rallies and wrote letters denouncing the crimes of the imperialist warmongers.

Gibraltar wins case on rights

President Mitterand of France said at a banquet in Mexico City that few countries appeared to realize the gravity of the present gulf between rich and poor nations.

From Michael Hamlyn
President Reagan has a splendid and well deserved reputation as a stand-up comic. He is best known for his one-liners, those quotable

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Oct 21.

"All in all, I'd rather be in Philadelphia," he scribbled on his note pad on the day of the shooting, quoting W. C. Fields. "I knew from the manner in which I was unclothed that I probably wouldn't wear that suit again," was another.

When President he indicated it was hard to keep track of some of his experts: "Sometimes our right hand doesn't know what our far right hand is doing."

The Reagan Wit edited by Bill Adler with Bill Adler Jr., published by Caroline House Publishers, Inc., \$6.95.

In an article on the Guillotine on September 19 *The Times* incorrectly stated that French collaborators were executed by guillotine after the liberation. The execution of Hamida Djandoubi took place on September 10, 1977, not in February.

From John Best, Ottawa, Oct 21

He has agreed to meet the 10 premiers "one last time" on November 2. The Prime Minister had wanted the meeting to be held next week, but this was rejected on Monday by the eight premiers who oppose the package to patriate the constitution. The premiers had suggested hold-

"for as many hours or days as it takes to reach a consensus or it becomes clear that no consensus is possible".
If an agreement was reached, the federal Government would move accordingly to amend its resolution, now before Parliament, asking Westminster to give Canada

In Montreal yesterday, where the eight rebel premiers Mr. René Lévesque of Quebec, said his administration intended to maintain its opposition to the federal package.

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PARLIAMENT October 21 1981

More private capital to go into transport

COMMONS

Every opportunity would be taken to introduce more private capital into the transport system and to liberalize it further, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said.

Mr John Mills (Meriden, C) had asked if the Secretary of State was considering further privatization and liberalization of organizations within the control of his department.

Confirming this, Mr Howell said: "In this connection I was very glad to be able to announce on Monday that agreement has now been reached for the sale of the National Freight Corporation to a consortium of managers and employees. I intend to press on urgently with my other planned proposals."

Mr Mills: Opportunities may exist in other areas under his control, in particular with various operations of British Rail. Will he bring them to fruition as soon as possible?

Mr Howell: I agree. This is a considerable advance and one that will command support on all sides of the House. There are different arrangements in different areas but progress must be made.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Barnes, Labour), said: "The return to the Treasury on the sale of

this important transport system was only £5.5m, an organization in which £32m was invested in the last financial year.

Could he assure the House the Government realize there is a limit to how long it can go on selling off valuable public assets in order to meet current expenditure?

Mr Howell: The Government was asked by a merchant bank of the highest integrity who recommended that £5.5m should be accepted. Frankly I would prefer to take their advice rather than Mr Booth's.

As to subsidies, it is true NFC was a fairly constant loss maker over the years. I think this price is a good one and I am surprised it has not been more warmly welcomed.

Proposals on Sealink expected

The British Railways Board was in the lead in working out how best to introduce private capital into Sealink UK and into other subsidiaries to be privatized, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said in answer to Mr Stephen Ross (Ile of Wight, L).

Mr Ross: I am under the impression that Sealink was to be a separate entity at the end of this month. What is the position on

Sealink's investment programme? At Yarmouth, a stop was put on a contract of £1,500,000 last Friday. Does Sealink come under the total British Rail capital programme, or is it a separate entity able to get on with investment of its own accord?

Mr Howell: It is still within the external financial limits under which British Rail operates. He has put his finger on one of the cases for thinking of privatization, which is to escape the unavoidable constraints of public finance which is a limited resource.

Mr Robin Cook (Edinburgh, Central, Labour): In view of the crisis in British shipyards, what hope can he offer that any purchaser of Sealink will pursue Sealink's buy-British policy, which is to the advantage of British shipyards?

Mr Howell: All major companies in the private and public sectors should seek to buy British wherever they can be consistent with proper commercial constraints.

Toll roads being considered

Two transport ministers said that they are looking at new forms of finance for roads, including private finance and tolls. Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under Secretary of State for Transport, was

asked by Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C): Will he look Mr Clarke (Rushcliffe, C): At present, obviously, it would be foolish to exclude any possibility of getting new resources into the building and maintenance of our road system.

Mr John Prescott, an Opposition spokesman on transport (Kingston-upon-Hull, East, Labour): As Mr Clarke seemed to give some credence to the suggestion that tolls may be introduced on motorways, has he given any consideration to how many tolls would be needed, and what would be the cost of imposing the tolls on motorways?

Mr Clarke: Mr Higgins asked for this subject to be reviewed. We have no positive proposals at the moment. It would be foolish, given the present state of the economy and the present constraints in which we operate, to shut our minds against possible alternative means of funding the road improvements we all agree we need.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said during later questions: "We are looking for new forms of finance, including private finance, for roads and the transport system generally. Again at the possibility of toll roads as a means of financing road maintenance."

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Minister wants quick tunnel decision

CHANNEL LINK

The French Government would need a little longer than the end of this year to come to decisions on the possibility of a cross-Channel link between Britain and France, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said during questions. His aim was to get on as fast as possible, but there was "unlikely to be an announcement of legislation in the Queen's Speech next month."

He said that last month's Anglo-French summit meeting had commissioned joint studies by officials from both countries to determine whether a scheme could be developed which would be beneficial to both countries.

Those studies will be pursued as quickly as the complexities of the issue allow (he said), with the aim of an early decision in principle by both governments.

Sir Albert Costa (Folkestone and Hythe, C): For 20 years my constituents have been in some doubt whether the Channel tunnel will be built or not. A series of ministers has not been connected with it and we hope that it will be Mr Howell who will be starting the process.

Mr Howell: The Channel link—it is not just a tunnel which is among the proposals put forward—has a good history and I approach the project with some humility.

I recognize the enthusiasm of many people for this project. The Anglo-French joint study is going well. The French suggests that they will need a little longer than the end of 1981 to come to decisions but my aim is to get on as fast as possible.

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Alliance plan for sharing seats

By Our Political Staff

Guidelines to be followed by the Liberals and Social Democratic Party when deciding seats to contest in the next General Election were published yesterday.

They envisage the establishment of 32 negotiating units covering England's 516 constituencies, to share out the seats. Some of the units will comprise representatives from the seats in one county, but others will include those from two or more counties. The plan was published for Greater London.

The text of the guidelines is as follows:

1. It is the objective of the two parties to fight the next General Election in alliance. It follows that they should not fight each other in any parliamentary seat.

2. Each party will fight seats throughout the country and support the other in so doing. The aim will be a spread of seats between the parties in every nation and region of Great Britain. The disparity in favour of either party in any negotiating unit should not normally exceed three to two.

3. Each party will fight a substantial number of seats differing in their economic, social, environmental and political character. Each will fight rural and industrial seats; urban and inner-city seats; Labour and Conservative seats; preferred and less promising seats in each negotiating unit. The aim is to cluster Liberal and Social Democratic seats.

4. In negotiating which seats either party should fight, weight will be given to local opinion. Taking into account the relative strengths of the local parties, their campaigning record and potential and the particular electoral appeal of prospective candidates and the respective parties insofar as this can be ascertained.

5. Negotiations to give effect to these considerations shall take place within negotiating units, agreed between the parties. Each party's local representatives shall be supported by the bags of the national negotiating teams and, if appropriate, by its regional leadership. Our parties in Scotland and Wales are proposed to operate on a similar basis.

6. The negotiating teams shall number six per side plus a senior executive from each party and meet together regularly during the negotiations. Together they will constitute the joint negotiating group and will be responsible for the general oversight of these negotiations and any conciliation that may be necessary. There may be circumstances when a matter in dispute cannot thus be resolved. Consideration will therefore be given to the establishment of an independent arbitration panel to assist in the implementation of this agreement.

7. At the beginning of the negotiations in each negotiating unit, sitting MPs of both parties in each unit shall be recognized as joint candidates in their existing constituencies. They shall be members of their respective parties by January 1, 1982, and that they be readopted in the form prescribed by their respective party rules. The seats of the joint negotiating group will be referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2. In the case of such a Member of Parliament whose seat may disappear or be substantially changed by boundary changes, he or she will be given special priority and consideration in finding a new seat.

8. The division of seats between the parties will proceed on existing constituencies boundaries, and on such new boundaries as have been recommended by the Boundary Commission, in parallel. This will be amended in the event of revised final proposals from the Boundary Commission.

9. Following the choice

So much to tell

By Geoffrey Keynes
(Oxford, £12.50)

ing round, after his marriage to Lydia Lopokova, in 1925 may have been due to his own susceptibility to Geoffrey's long rakish nose and dashing mustache.

The other bonus for Geoffrey Keynes has been very long life without loss of vitality. He is now half way through his 95th year and this is plainly a recent production of his. Bertrand Russell's, a cobbling-together of bits and pieces composed long ago. He inclines to put his protracted vigour down to abstinence from drink and smoking. In the accent of old, enlightened Cambridge, he observes, "I have never been fond of drink except when thirsty, then it is most enjoyable". His father, also a hard worker, died at 37.

Writing about a colleague and friend, who retreated to Bermuda when stuck in his prison camp in the United States, he says: "He did not have the extrovert character which is so often the mark of the successful surgeon." Geoffrey Keynes comes across as an extrovert, but not too keen to mention his frequent successes, not too timid to record a reasonable number of failed examinations and critical drubbings.

He brags of his "severalities of bleak" paladin of scholarly propriety who condemned his bibliography of Bishop Berkeley, commenting in a footnote "Rash buyers of my book be cannot say they have not been warned."

The fruitfully crowded surface of his life is here, but the questions it provokes about the sources of his prodigious and continuing energy are not answered. But the outline of a canvas, that is, a career.

FISH!
By A. N. Wilson
(Secker & Warburg, £6.95)

The sins of Oswald Fish are visited on his twentieth century descendants who encounter each other in a series of agreeably ludicrous coincidences. Fanny's husband, a splendid frogspawn who was once a famous pop singer and is now the owner of a chain of boutiques specialising in Victoriana of a vaguely Fish-like nature, acquires Sir Aldair, a Prime Minister, who kills her corpse, who are the only real love of her life. The man from the council who wants to turn it into a leisure centre is Fred Jobling, another Fish. The man whose daughter is in Kensal Green cemetery where Oswald Fish lies buried, though, the headstone does not bear his name. The black barrister who lives in Fanny's Brighton district is called Oswald, is also a Fish, name of Bullwows. He has an affair with a timid art historian ("Winchester, actually") who then throws himself under a train, a railway accident. Oswald's brother, the one he succeeded, had done so many years before.

An enjoyable, clever piece of black comedy from a writer who has written tough English novels whose ab-

and Plath knew the cost of her own obsessions. Look again at the lines quoted. "The illusion of a Greek necessity." Only a major poet could have got things that correct. Because this collection is so good, Sylvia Plath had to work hard at her craft, writing a number of Parnassian poems in order to find her own voice. It should not be assumed that the poems that follow the final "perfected" poems prove her to be. It remains only to be said that Hughes has edited and introduced Plath's poems with tenderness and competence. He has not tampered. Forget the legends and the gossip. Here are the facts. Facts which amount to some of the most hair-raising and heart-stopping poetry written in our

Dying
*Is an art, like everything else.
 I do it exceptionally well.
 I do so as I would give to you,
 I do so it feels real.
 I guess you could say I've a call.*

D. J. Enright must occupy some colour at the other end of the spectrum. His *Collected Poems* (Oxford £10) shows him to be a poet who has made an art of avoiding whatever it is that irks him to write. They call this irony, and of course it was fashionable to be ironic in the

King Charles I
By Pauline Gregg
(Dent £12.50)

knew not how to be or be made great".
 The king's early life is excellently described: the warm, affectionate, and indeed intelligent upbringing — according to the knowledge of the time — of the frail little boy with the stammer and weak legs, who loved his mother, the high-spirited Anne of Denmark, held his peculiar father in great awe, and was positively hero-worshipped by his elder brother, Henry.
 On Henry's sudden death, which left his family distraught, Charles had to shoulder heavy responsibilities as a young man, and remained a law developer, at the centre of an immature court, a state of affairs most embarrassingly illustrated in the matter

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Henry's sudden death, which left his family distraught, Charles had to shoulder heavy responsibilities at an early age. Yet he remained a late developer, at the centre of an immature court, a state of affairs most embarrassingly illustrated in the matter of the Spanish Match, when Charles, with Buckingham and a small band of friends, dashed to Madrid to win the hand of the Spanish Infanta. The whole incident was like a giant leap out of *Love's Labour Lost*, but with more pathos at the end and altogether too much at stake, both internationally and per-

She has also a sharp eye for people. Henrietta-Maria, on her arrival in England, is "a young little creature, quick in her movements. . . . If her nose was a little large, her mouth a little prominent, her big black eyes obscured these shortcomings as they responded to every changing mood".

Miss Gregg concludes that Charles was the archetypal English gentleman, whose misfortune it was to have to catch part of a king in a period of momentous change. She points to his personal need for a calming, well-ordered faith, to "the luxury of dependence. . . which was so much a part of his character", and to the crucial remark of a contemporary that he was "at his best when alone, acting in the awareness of his own responsibility". Surely the truth lies here. However understandable in the lesser private man, these are not a ruler's attributes, and the king's servants paid often most dearly, for his lack of the statesman's grasp.

Rivers Scott

Lallygagging along

(Collins, £9.95)
When Jonathan Raban was

himself during the first half of his voyage. The novelty of handling the boat or the treacherous water had by then long since worn off, of course, and Middle America was becoming repetitive. He had already done his confessional bit (I trust his father was a good man, and at it) and his sexual encounter safely in the bag. So it's all downhill from St Louis to New Orleans.

The navigation of the river is almost incidental to the burden and the purpose of Mr Raban's tale. He set out, I suspect, to tell us about Americans on the pretense of checking out Huck's patch, and he succeeds in this better than anyone I've read for a long time. He gets himself invited into their households and their homes, he attends more church services of the most desecrating kind, he could keep count of, he lends himself to a black man's campaign to become mayor of Memphis, he discovers forlorn ex-GI brides, he has a series of conversations with Hell's Angels, a possessive boy-friend and a bum with a knife (and on each of those occasions he acquires himself, as the saying is, a new friend), he meets a very nervous professional extreme nervous case at other times, like Redford playing the Sundance Kid). He has a faultless ear for other people's speech, "I say, I say, I say," he is a superb receptionist, "I'm just taking a good look at the inside of my eyelids". That is a classic example of one American gift, for vivid vernacular. There

are innumerable examples of simple friendliness and generosity, which are the greatest of America's virtues.

The following quotes, taken from just 40 pages in the middle of the book, also tell us a great deal about where the U.S. of A. is at. "They should've hung Jane Fonda 15 years ago. . . . They got Women's Lib in Yerp now? . . . Right now we're into creative cramps. . . . What's the taxi driver, turns into an art form. . . . I won't let those guys eat away with five unnecessary cents. . . . When that black puts a rock through my picture window I'm ready for him. I got a loaded gun. . . . You're invited to my name by the U.S. and I am your waiter for the evening. I hope you enjoy your meal."

Somewhere down towards the deika an umbrerited old vet, an ex-Marine, is caught in another voice of America just before Ronald Reagan made it into White House. "Seems, nowadays, like the Yew-nighted States is jes' too afraid to stand up for itself."

If we all survive the new upsurge of the Yew-nighted States, I remain grateful to Mr. Kabin for his record of this trembling moment in time. I just hope that, having negotiated all the wing-dams and chutes and the Yew-nighted States of Mississippi hazards safely, he doesn't foul up on the latest American legal rip-off: invasion of privacy.

Geoffrey Moorhouse

The killing ground of Anzio

The Battle for the Eternal City

out from Anzio or to thrust past Cassino to the bombed-out monastery. Nevertheless, the delay was heart-breaking — not merely for the combatants, but also for many in the command — to whom the outcome meant either freedom or a perpetuation of bondage. The ambience of Rome in those hectic days is at the core of Mr Trevelyan's book.

And the irony, of course, is that in the mind of the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Harold Alexander, Rome was not the essential objective. The plan was for Mark Clark to lead his army, which had just come out from Anzio, to cut off decisively the German forces when at last they retreated from the Cassino Line. But when Henry IV said that Paris was the goal, it was Mark Clark certainly acted as if to be first into Rome was worth the permanent maiming of his military reputation. For he was not alone in thinking that capital, a would-be Belshazzar, instead of driving eastwards for the cut-off that never happened. An old, sad story, rancid as ever in Mr Trevelyan's retelling.

But the Romans were ignorant of high-level strategies, and hope was their daily bread. For the collaborators, and particularly for the Italian Fascists, who helped the SS to torture and murder, making Ardennas as notorious as Oradour or Lidice, the only hope lay in a German success. How mercifully the Germans spared them two years in Rome

Down to essentials

By Susan Chitty
(Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95)

vulgar American Duchesse. Though he later visited her ritually in her rooms one morning a week, and she persisted in regarding herself as his mistress, they drifted apart and she sought consolation in the arms of the Church. She had already had, we are told, a playful relationship with Finland's Finnish cultressulpsa also in love with Rodin, who sometimes participated in their frolics; in later life her passions seem to have been directed towards (and without reciprocation) towards women, especially Jacques Meritain's sister-in-law, with whom she was embarrassingly drawn out with letters, drawings and little gifts until Meritain and his wife were called in to attend her when she was transported to a weekly visit.

interesting in itself, especially considering the eminence of the other people involved. But the real point of rehearsing it now is the importance of Gwen John herself as an artist. Augustus John thought, or affected to think, that his sister was a better

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THE ARTS

Television
Rights of children

Social workers tend to figure in the news only when they are criticised, which is somewhat unfortunate, but an occupational hazard no worse than that suffered by many in public service. It may have been a feeling that the record should be put straight that persuaded Nottingham Social Services Department to open its files for BBC1 to go in and film some of its cases.

The feeling is understandable, but the decision to allow cameras to film a child in a real and emotionally harrowing situation is not justifiable and casts doubt on the wisdom of those who guide the department's fortunes.

"Parents-in-Law" last night, was the first of a series somewhat ambiguously titled. All Those Hard Luck Cases. In it we saw Amanda, aged eight, separated from her mother because of family crises and her delinquency and placed in a foster home. When the State takes over parental rights it is a delicate matter and the obvious difficulties in spelling out all the details on television. Such difficulties might well have inhibited both the social services department and the BBC from proceeding.

Mother and stepfather appeared in this film and, as cameras and crews are not inconspicuous, might thereby be adjudged to have consented. This in no way relieved the department of its responsibility for the child's rights as they were in loco parentis and the real parents' judgment must surely be suspect as they had already forfeited the child.

The harrowing scenes occurred when the mother visited her child after several months of separation. It was a distressing meeting for both and, presumably, the camera crew. When the mother left, the struggling child had to be physically restrained from following her, the cameras following the scene from one room to another.

It was thoroughly disturbing and to what purpose? Television is not a child and not help the child whose plight may well have been witnessed by her contemporaries at school; it could not help the audience; and, in my view, did nothing to the credit of Nottingham Social Services.

Dennis Hackett

The Cabinet deadlock on the issue of spending cuts is bad news for the arts. Most organisations have realistically reorganised themselves to cut this year, but the Cabinet debate means that the fall of the axe will be delayed.

Last year the news came in December, but it is now already clear that the size of the arts budget and the cuts which have to be made will

not be known until January at the earliest. So companies will be presented with longer uncertainties.

The scale of any cuts will not be considered until after the blood has been spilt in the big, more politically sensitive spending departments. If the arts simply has to mark time with other cutbacks that would imply a 2 per cent cut in real terms. So, taking the

Much depends on the situation within the Cabinet. The Arts Ministry, although organisationally under the Department of Education and Science, is directly answerable to the Cabinet for its budget.

So far it has been clear that, for all her enthusiasm for cutting spending elsewhere, the Prime Minister is broadly on the side of Government's arts subsidies.

The Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, in contrast is known to be substantially less sympathetic.

But there is now no voice in Cabinet to speak up for the arts. Mr Paul Channon, Mr Norman St John-Stevas' successor as Arts Minister, simply has to wait and see what is handed down and then decide whether he appeals or accepts. Mr Channon has

declined to comment on either forecasts of cuts or what action he would take to prevent them.

The key argument that is generally put is that the arts suffer from worse inflation than the economy as a whole. Lately, however, this has run into some scepticism and suggestions that arts companies are simply more profitable than others. It is not a

winnable argument but it does appear to be true that the arts are far more heavily subject to wage costs than other sectors and these have tended to stay ahead of price inflation.

It all adds up to a nerve-racking formula for the arts as a whole.

Bryan Appleyard

Winter of waiting as Cabinet delays decision

New York Film Festival

British Empire strikes back

New York. There were two surprises at the 90th New York Film Festival: one welcome, one not so.

The first, a form of life after death, was the potential re-emergence of the British film industry as an international force again. The second, a form of fact masquerading as fiction, was the widespread use of "docu-drama" as a substitute, it often seemed, for imagination.

In a surprising number of films, from the topical *Lightning Over Water*, which records Nicholas Ray's on-screen fight against cancer, to Louis Malle's *My Dinner With Andre*, a biographical "real-life" dialogue between the director Andre Gregory and the writer Wally Shawn, to Agnes Varda's *Documentaire: An Emotion Picture*, which is, alas, about Ms Varda — it is as if, shamelessly in some cases, the line between reality and fantasy in today's films has been erased.

The "docu-drama" films of Ken Loach, represented at the festival by *Looks and Smiles* — have been so consistently engaged in a deeply effective view of working class England that one feels they could not be made any other way.

Wajda's *Man of Iron*, coolly received in New York, nevertheless captures in its extraordinary fusion of fact and fiction the course of events in Poland during the last year.

Isran Szabo's *Mephisto* — for myself, the finest film at the festival — is also based on fact, the story of a great German stage actor who became the darling of the Nazis. But *Mephisto* is at the



Francis Low and Rick Mayall in Clare Peplow's *Cops and Robbers*, one of the British successes in New York

same time a stunning metaphor of illusion and self-delusion.

But in the hands of other docu-drama film-makers, the picture isn't only different, it's disturbing. Frank Ripplow's autobiographical film *Taxi Zum Klo* is a case in point. Much heralded and well received, it at least offers a more realistic image of gay life than the camp stereotypes of *La Cage Aux Folles*.

But its centre, and Ripplow's autobiography, is mundane. Because it is a true story, it is somehow considered "art". *Taxi Zum Klo* is not art. It is a soap opera. It is a boy-meets-boy story. (And boy leaves boy for erotic boy.)

In the name of real life, the current vogue of docu-dramas appears to overlook whether the life is worth recording.

The surprise of the festival was that in terms of their collective impact, the British films were the major contribution from any one country. In spite of so few films being made in Britain by British directors, as opposed to American-financed films made by British technicians, four contrasting films have been widely acclaimed.

Charlots of Five Ken Loach's *Looks and Smiles*, a fine documentary about the American army called *Soldier Girls*, and a terrific film-making debut, Clare Peplow's *Cops and Robbers*.

have all in their different ways revealed to America the rich film-making talent still to be found in Britain.

Clare Peplow's refreshing comedy, *Cops and Robbers*, was made in Britain and stars British actors, the excellent Peter Eyre, and an exciting new discovery, Frances Low, among them. But the film was financed by the Alan Ladd Company in America. *Cops and Robbers* is also a short, lasting half an hour.

Nick Broomfield and Joan Churchill's highly praised *Soldier Girls* brings to mind not just the best of the British documentary tradition, but that documentaries can be seen as compelling features, provided distributors will give them a chance. *How to Mozart* and Ira Wohl's *Best Boy* lead the way. Mr Broomfield is a graduate of the British Film School. But, again, *Soldier Girls* was financed in America.

In terms of commercial films (*Charlots*), social realism (*Looks and Smiles*), comedy (*Cops and Robbers*), and *Cinema Verite* (*Soldier Girls*), these four films have shown the festival what British film-makers can achieve. None reflects the dead formulae of Hollywood. Three of them are about England. Seeing them, Americans believe that the British film industry is thriving again. It is sad to report back to them that these excellent films, made in spite of the system, and that British film-makers are in fact, still in search of an industry.

John Heilpern

Concerts

LPO/Tenstedt

Festival Hall

There is nothing like a Wagner concert to prove that opera really is a department of drama. In the theatre, with only a dimmed proscenium arch, and dusky curtain to look at, the *Meistersingers* overture cannot fail to be a sumptuous summons and enticement. But now here comes Klaus Tennstedt to scoop and flail his long thin arms before a London Philharmonic Orchestra in full glare, and the thing immediately becomes a ghastly piece of gimcrack. The playing is magnificent, and fully in character. The woodwinds giggle behind guilty palms in the music for the apprentices, and the trombones, placed as heavyweights between the cellos and the basses, enter to splendid effect. But these are gesturings in a carnival procession. Nobody can help it, but the machinery is too evident.

But, happily, such shocks cannot last for long. There was a lovely domestic interlude in the following performance of the *Siegfried Idyll* which conveyed the essence of intimacy, not through restraint but rather, on the contrary, because the conductor was in close contact with every moment of the music as it passed.

The pace was generally very slow, giving Mr Tennstedt every opportunity to touch in the expressive aura of each tiny phrase, but every now and then he would draw the threads together in a rush. Then, after the interval, there was that favourite choice of Wagnerian acts for the concert hall, the opening scene of *Die Walkure*, and by this stage it

seemed quite reasonable to have the orchestra on view, especially when Mr Tennstedt was making one listen to them so acutely.

Paul Griffiths

Chelsea Opera Group

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Weber's *Oberon* is just the kind of opera that merits the attentions of the Chelsea Opera Group. It is full of superb music, fiery, poetic, colourful — and in its scoring far in advance of anything that Beethoven or Schubert were doing at the time; but its libretto has always been a stumbling block. Not so long ago, that was said, too, of Purcell's *Fairy Queen*, but stylish and unembarrassed revival a few years back, faithful to the original, proved the traditional view mistaken; perhaps someone will have the courage to put on *Oberon* with Planché's despised verses, not to mention the lavish transformations. It might just work.

Until then, concert performance is something to be grateful for. Tuesday night's certainly had a generous measure of enthusiasm, thanks not least to the sturdy old trouper of the COG orchestra but most of all to Howard Williams's direction, as precise as it was exuberant, yet keenly alive to the poetic side of the work.

The singing, too, had ample spirit but was relatively short on discipline. Lois McDonald sang generously, almost to a fault, with plenty of forthright, glowing tone.

Stanley Sadie

Dance
Backdrop humour

Jones and Zane

ICA

A third London theatre joined the Dance Umbrella programme last night when the ICA showed a pair of American dancers making their British debut. Bill Zane is a big, black, muscular, assertive. The technician that underlies both the way they performed, is like that of Laurel and Hardy, a comic analogy of marriage. It almost fits the old song about "nagging of a fellow what is six foot three, and him only four foot two".

The humour, however, remains mostly in the background, implied but not emphasised. Judging from the way he moves, and from what he said when each man in turn, at one point, spoke, what sounded an autobiographical way, I should guess that Jones is at heart a serious man. Zane seems to provide the real performance that sparks them both into action.

Both pieces have choreography jointly by the two dancers and an accompaniment of sounds recorded by Helen Thorington. Although the relationship between the two pieces is closely similar, the mood and pace changes at intermission time. In the first half, consisting of the first act ("fiction") from *Blauvelt Mountain*, they start with a pair of big, quiet, wild creatures, and a recurring theme has one of them dancing around the other like a person trying to attract an animal.

The background noises there are often from the countryside: birdsong, or distant bells. The second half, *Valley Cottage* (composed as the last section of a trilogy), starts with the sounds of a quiet, rural scene, and the mood is jazzier. Halfway through, a family group photograph, enlarged to fill the whole back wall, is projected as if to provide a reminder of origins and obligations.

In movement, Zane seems more of an acrobat, perhaps a little too fond of his hand-springs and cartwheels.

John Percival

Theatre

Blood on the Dole

Tricycle, Kilburn

The first full-length play on youth unemployment to reach the London stage comes from the Liverpool Playhouse, and earns its credit as much from its gutsy truth-telling as from the Merseyside jobless statistics.

Jim Morris's story of two working-class school-leavers proceeds through the wilderness of empty job centres and desolate amusement arcades, and ends in death and bereavement. But if it arouses pity and indignation, you have to supply that yourself as the piece itself is a vigorous comedy.

There are awkwardnesses of plotting in the text, and confusions of location in Pip Broughton's production, but nothing obscures the main drive of the play as a robust study of comic character in adverse circumstances. Ricky (John Wild) and Joey (Andrew Schofield, who suggests a starved juvenile Stan Laurel), would have had trouble anyway, as inseparable mates of mismatched talents and shared clumsiness with girls.

The giggling girls (Kate Fitzgerald and Gilly Coman) drift off to more promising partners — one of them even teaming up with the cocky Welsh pedant who booted Joey out of school.

We see the group trying a variety of dead-end jobs, fired as a mail-sorter for reading classified Post Office regulations on what to do with letters to Father Christmas.

In defeat Ricky joins the Army and is promptly killed in Ireland (a chilling, silent scene with a searchlight raking the long side-stage). Joey's reaction is to take the scissors and slice a shirt off at the neck, proudly holding up the tattered rag as "the new unemployed look".

Play and production alike present a cold, mean surrounding world of face-saving institutions and job-conscious officials, with the fires of adolescent bitterness as strongly as ever at the centre.

Irving Wardle

Fitting for Ladies

Orange Tree, Richmond

Restoration comedy, Shakespeare, Brecht, a bevy of new playwrights and Feydeau as well; the Orange Tree Theatre, above the Orange Tree public house in Richmond, offers more variety in drama than most pubs offer in

drink. *Fitting for Ladies* is Feydeau at his most compact, 75 minutes of intricate confusion in the pursuit of extramarital bliss. No playwright ever served greater warning on the perils of infidelity, and yet remained so enamoured of lovely entanglements.

Coordinated by Sam Walters in the Orange Tree house style, with mine, actors swirling into the tiny action space and gathering their costumes and identities off a coatrack, the play is a microcosm of the longer Feydeau farces. The situation is succinctly introduced by a cheeky butler, who discovers that his employer, a married doctor, has spent the night away from his bed and reveals as much to the doctor's wife.

There is a charm to the productions by Mr Walters that is often extraneous to the play; in Feydeau that charm pays dividends in full. With consummate and unconscious art, he has conveniently vacated her premises so the doctor might take the flat for his assignments, the way is clear for the doctor to be taken for a dressmaker for his intended mistress to be pursued by her husband into the surgery and dressmaker's flat, for wives and mistresses to multiply.

Ned Chaillet

Opera

Generous response

Simon Boccanegra

Covent Garden

Verdi's glorious opera dates from 1857, his middle period. It was thoroughly revised just before *Otello* in the composer's last, St. Martin's Summer, years.

When the Royal Opera's production was new last year, the settings and productions occasioned disapproval, sometimes tempered with praise. They look no better in this revival, all too loyal to the original, though the new Amelia, Leona Mitchell, makes an even more luscious impression on the eye than her predecessor.

Fortunately, we can again admire the performance of the music, which is musically well up to Royal Opera standards, even with last-minute replacements, as well as a different conductor. This last is young James Conlon from New York, a business-like director, a performance (though the chorus needs to keep a sharper eye on his exemplary beard), and a keen Verdian.

Conlon takes nothing in the opera for granted, whether it is grandeur, whether intense and dynamic, or spacious and lyrical. The Royal Opera House orchestra responded generously to his enthusiastic and professional reading.

If I single out for special admiration the performance of the epilogue to Fiesco's first aria, and the opening of the second scene, and the climax of Boccanegra's reunion with his daughter, and the Council Chamber, in the last scene the full and sympathetic support given Sherrill Milnes, again commanding, not quite touching, in the title role, and Gwyneth Howell's fine and majestic Fiesco — and the sublimely protracted finale melody that is merely to lift the musical peaks of *Simon Boccanegra*.

Miss Mitchell, in a house debut rather belated for her international prestige, but not only looks appealing, but sings Amelia's music truly and affectingly; her upper register tends to sharpen in pitch with the simple eloquence that was also Verdi's.

She is a real acquisition. If I cannot say the same of Carlo Bini's Adorno, we were lucky to get a last minute principal tenor who sings accurately, in time, and with clear words. His acting, sometimes unwittingly comic, fits well with the stilted style of the production, which is still a pity. Jonathan Summers again takes an interesting view of Paolo, and gives the part human credibility.

William Mann

Waugh's classic 'failure'

Brideshead Revisited, by Evelyn Waugh (Penguin, £2.50)

I guess that *Brideshead Revisited* must be Evelyn Waugh's best known novel. If it wasn't before, it is going to be now that it has become, according to the cover of this new paperback edition, "the best-selling TV series". Waugh, who twice refused film offers for it, would have been amused to see himself puffed on the covers of other of his paperbacks simply as the author of "Brideshead Revisited". He considered the book partly a failure. In his preface to the substantially cut revised edition he wrote that the novel "lost me such esteem as I once enjoyed among my contemporaries" and led me into an unfamiliar world of fan-mail and press photographers.

He considered that because of the bleak period of 1944, soya beans and Basic English, in which it was written, the book was infused with a kind of gluttony, for food and wine, for the splendours of the recent past, and for rhetorical and ornamental language, which in 1960 with a full stomach he found distasteful. Rose Macaulay complained of an adolescent surrender to glamour and a disconcerting luxury of bloom.

"Love, the English aristocracy, and the Roman Catholic Church combine to liquefy a style that should be dry."

Reading it again after some years one has to agree that he did pile it on rather with a caviar ladle in places: dinner with awful Rex at Ciro's, Lord Marchmain's dying soliloquy, the storm on the Atlantic, that brings Charles's affair with Julia to its climax. In spite of the lushness, it is still almost a great novel, which successfully carves the two incongruous strands in Evelyn Waugh's comic satirist and the melancholy romantic.

It is not the over-ripeness that offends. We too live in quite a bleak period. For me there are two central flaws. First, it is difficult to believe in Julia, even more difficult to fall in love with her. Second, I find the persuasive Roman Catholic twist to the plot tiresome. The same theme of a higher Papist plotter at work, twinning the thread tied to his characters, was handled more delicately, and for those of us outside the Fancy, more convincingly, by Graham Greene in *The End of the Affair*.

It is still a book to remember and reread. Nobody has written better of that lost, enchanted city of Oxford in the Twenties. Many of the characters stick in the memory, from Sebastian Flyte



Evelyn Waugh in 1959

doomed by charm to that aesthetic *par excellence*, Anthony Blanche. It may not be Waugh's best book. *The Sword of Honour* Trilogy and *A Handful of Dust* must be contenders for that title, and also *The Loved One*. That flawless little masterpiece that Waugh picked up while visiting Hollywood to decide that *Brideshead* was unfilmable. He may have been right about that. But thank the Pope, or Granada at least, for prodding us to read again a bittersweet, moving and funny, almost great book.

Philip Howard

A cloudy past retrieved

Jean M. Auel's *Clan of the Cave Bear* (Goronet, £1.95) set some eyebrows twitching among the anthropological cognoscenti when it first appeared, but for the less erudite it's a spellbinder — bearing in mind that it is fiction based on research into a still-cloudy area of history (c-33,000 BC).

Ayla, a Cro-Magnon girl-child, last survivor of her family, overtaken by an earthquake, is adopted and reared by a Neanderthal tribe whose development and mores are quite different from her own. The author, bravely and imaginatively, examines their adaptation to each other and circumstances, and recounts their adventures as they search for a new, and safer, home somewhere in north-eastern Europe.

It's the first of a six-volume saga titled "Earth's Children", which I think deserves some sort of accolade for courage — or audacity.

Early 19th-century (industrial-revolutionary) novels abound. Few are as compulsively readable as Brenda

Jagger's *The Clouded Hills* (Futura, £1.95) — first of a trilogy about the hard-headed Barforth family, busily clawing their way up a social and financial ladder built from good Yorkshire wool.

The author's central theme is the position of women in a man-dominated society and their frustration under a law which robs them of pecuniary independence. But, although written with quietly passionate conviction, it is no feminist tract — just a story of one group of people in a world undergoing a socio-economic cataclysm.

Much has been written about the RAF pilots of the Second World War — hardly anything about the WAAF (as they then were) who supported them — and watched them fly away, taking their hearts with them.

Catherine Ross's *Colours of the Night* (Magnum, £1.50) first published nearly twenty years ago, is the only novel I remember which entirely recaptures the atmosphere and urgency of its time. Full of domestic detail, as well as the excitement and heartbreak of a moment in history which changed the lives and outlook of many a hitherto sheltered middle-class girl, catapulting her into harsh reality, physical danger and self-reliance. For those who were there, a graphic reminder of a half-forgotten world. For those who weren't, an eye-opener.

Pre-revolutionary Russia is, fictionally speaking, "in" at present and Gwendoline Butler makes the most of it in *The Red Staircase* (Fontana, £1.50) this year's Major Award winner for Romantic Fiction.

Events are seen through the eyes of Rose, a "sensible" Scottish girl with a gift for healing, whose medical studies are curtailed by diminishing funds, and whose broken love-affair sends her scuttling

to Russia, to relatives whose designs she initially misunderstands. By the time she does understand, the situation is involved in a highly perilous situation.

The *Leavetaking* (Coronet, £1.10) is one of Anna Gilbert's intricate, subtle, and elegant Victorian novels, on the surface very quiet, but underneath full of quiet, relentless, menace.

It needs more space than I have here to outline the complex plot to try would only distort. In any case, it is the manner in which the matter, which is important, Anna Gilbert writes with fastidious care. Every word counts. The manipulation of people by each other is her favourite theme, and, the understatement of the good and innocent in the face of ruthless egotism. But there is always light at the end of the tunnel. And so it is in *The Leavetaking*.

Books reviewed: *Clan of the Cave Bear* (Coronet, £1.95) *The Clouded Hills* (Futura, £1.95) *Colours of the Night* (Magnum, £1.50) *The Red Staircase* (Fontana, £1.50) *The Leavetaking* (Coronet, £1.10).

Elizabeth Grey

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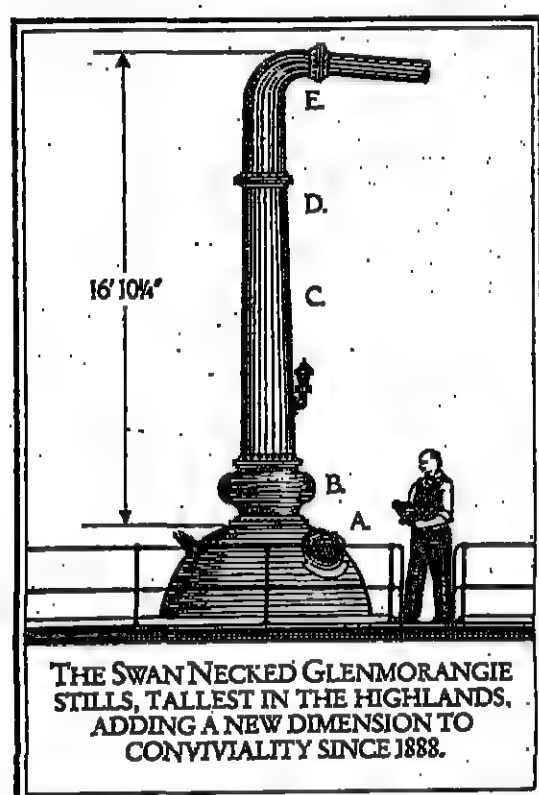
SOME POINT TO their product's mist-shrouded history; some to their peat and their barley; others yet to the chilly waters of the burn that feeds the distillery; or to the length of time the finished liquor matures in its oaken bed.

Primus inter pares

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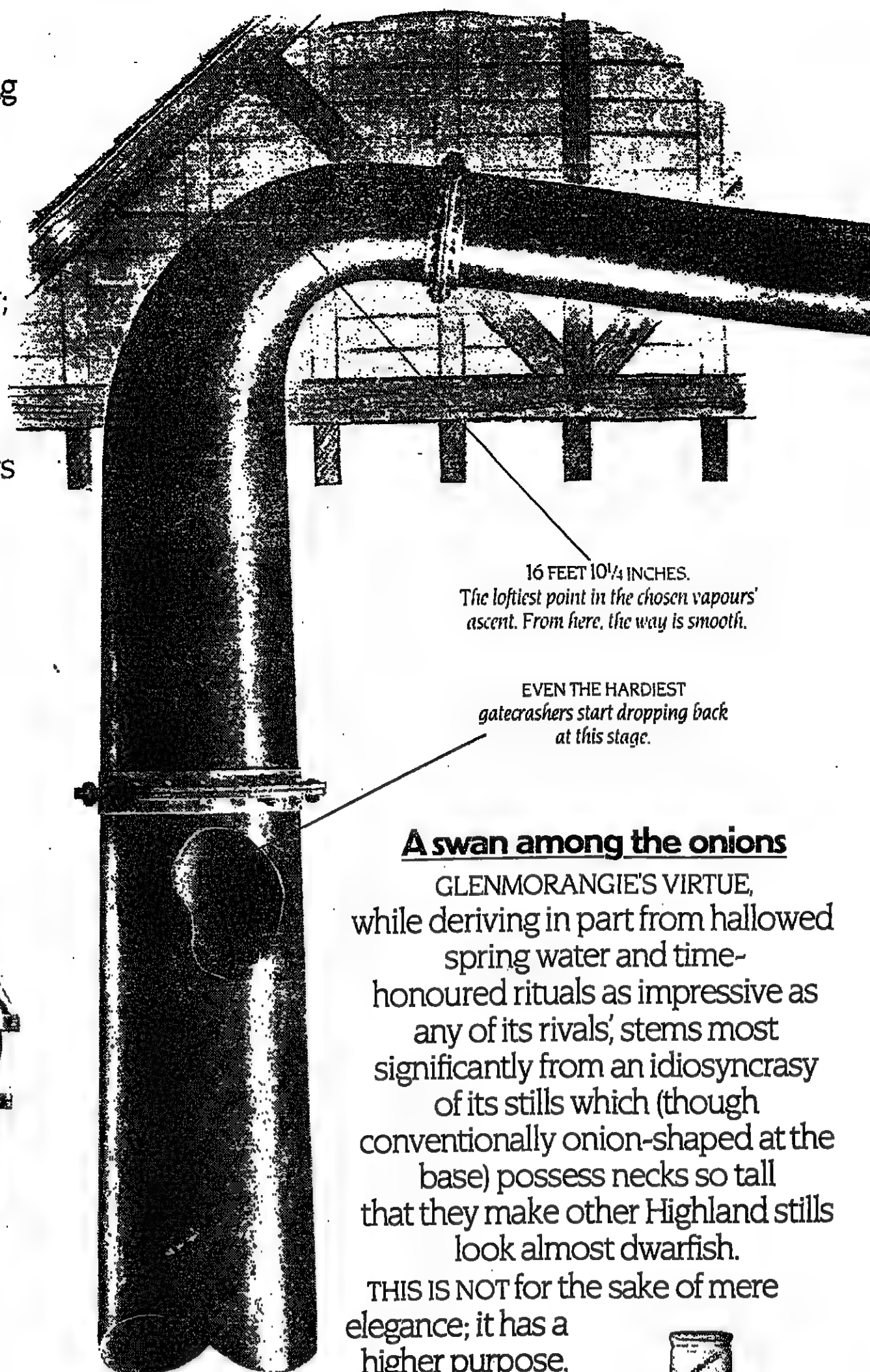
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Mubarak, ready to tackle some harsh home truths

by Christopher Walker

Cairo Just over a year before President Sadat was assassinated, he solemnly told the Egyptian people he would devote 95 per cent of his time to domestic affairs. It was a rash promise that he was temperamentally unsuited to fulfil, but it pointed the way to the approach which his successor must adopt if Egypt is to have a chance of overcoming its grave internal problems.

Their extent is illustrated in the mass of grim official statistics showing the desperate overcrowding, the poverty, the collapsed infrastructure, the inequalities, the lack of opportunities for the young and the bleak economic prospect.

But they are better understood after even the briefest tour of an average Egyptian town and the outlying villages where surprisingly cheerful people are usually beset with disease and insanitary conditions which make most western visitors wince.

The indescribable filth of the Cairo slums is only one aspect of a country where food production now lags behind population growth to the extent that food imports rose by 50 per cent in 1980. With the present recorded population of 43 million increasing by 105,000 people a month, reliable forecasters predict that if drastic action is not taken soon to reduce the average family size, the population will reach a nightmare 70 million by the turn of the century.

Although the economic situation remains temporarily viable — supported by \$2,500m a year of foreign aid — western experts agree that drastic measures are also needed here to avoid a

sudden deterioration which could have far-reaching political repercussions.

Recent figures show that income from the main currency earners — oil, tourism, the Suez Canal and remittances from the three million foreign workers abroad — is now rising at an ominously slower pace than in the recent past. In addition, most available resources have been diverted into big subsidies for basic goods rather than in investment vital to make the ailing economy self-sustaining in the future.

He is aware that many aspects of President Sadat's Olympian style of government were unpopular with ordinary Egyptians

President Mubarak has made clear in early speeches and interviews (all of which have impressed foreign observers) that he is aware that his main tasks are to be found at home. He has cited internal security, food production, infrastructure and housing as his main priorities, and he has stressed that he will not tolerate the corruption and nepotism which was increas-

ing in the latter days of President Sadat's regime.

In spite of the repeated emphasis on "continuity" as the theme of the new government, there have already been subtle indications that changes are under way. While President Sadat was something of a visionary who usually worked only three or four hours a day, Mr Mubarak is a military-trained manager who has shown an early determination to impose some much-needed efficiency in Egypt's ramshackle government machine. Meetings with ministers now begin at 8.30 or 9 am, times unheard of for conducting government business with Mr Sadat.

In keeping with the theme of continuity, Mr Mubarak is acting as his own prime minister, as Mr Sadat did from May 1980. But there is speculation that things could change after the 40-day mourning period for the murdered president is over.

Political soundings indicate that he is prudently biding his time before bringing forward men of his own choice. A decision to appoint a vice-president or heir apparent is likely to be delayed until the new year, with no obvious candidate having yet emerged.

Apart from the economy, food and the crumbling network of essential services, another key internal problem is posed by security and the future loyalty of the armed services, whose morale has been badly hit by the embarrassing lack of any effective resistance to the attack on Mr Sadat. One

scheme already under way is to provide flats for about 4,000 officers on interest free, 30-year loans in an effort to make up for their eroded pay and status of recent years.

On Islamic fundamentalism, Mr Mubarak has already made plain that he will act even more harshly than his predecessor, but he has not yet been so definite about how he will cope with ordinary political opposition. Senior western diplomats hope he will soon take action to re-establish some confidence in the embryonic multi-party system, which was dealt a near fatal blow by Mr Sadat's round-up of nearly 1,600 of his critics.

One diplomatic observer said: "Mr Mubarak has not given much public hint that he will adopt a less sensitive approach to criticism, but there is a feeling that in the long run he may prove more tolerant of it. As soon as it is feasible, he may lay down some firm ground rules to show the opposition just what it can and cannot do."

Again no early change of policy is expected, but already speeches — and directives to Cairo's semi-official press — have indicated that he is aware that many aspects of President Sadat's Olympian style of government were unpopular with ordinary Egyptians. The most significant changes are likely to involve less emphasis on foreign diplomatic razzmatazz, a reduced public role for the President's wife and a more down-to-earth approach to government, involving less use of the string of ostentatious rest houses favoured by Mr Sadat.

Although Mr Mubarak will concentrate initially on



Hosni Mubarak: a more down-to-earth approach to Egypt's many pressing problems

domestic affairs, he has been swift to remove any doubts about Egypt's continuing dedication to the still fragile Camp David peace process. Prospects for an agreement with Israel on the divisive question of Palestinian autonomy may be as distant as at any time since talks opened in 1979, but until the remaining one-third of the occupied Sinai is returned to Egypt on April 25 next year, no significant change in the Egyptian position is expected.

The President has already reassured the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Begin, that

Egypt's support for the peace process will continue undiminished beyond the emotional Sinai handover. Western observers here do not doubt his sincerity, but many feel — perhaps more from instinct than quantifiable evidence — that Egypt will then slowly begin the journey back towards the Arab fold.

As a tentative first step, the new President has vowed that he will not indulge in the savage verbal attacks on fellow Arab leaders so favoured by Mr Sadat, and so damaging to the prospects of any long-term reconciliation.

Ronald Butt Is the SDP so different?

Anyone who has followed the personal and factional manoeuvres at the party conferences this year, with their bombastic confusion between the struggle for policies and the conflicting ambitions of persons, is bound to emerge with his faith in the political process severely dampened.

Against the lowering background of a society suffering from decay at the roots, the half-truths and unconfident certainties of even the most straightforward of politicians can easily strike a knell of despair.

How many of the voters who today opt for the new Liberal-Social Democratic option at Croydon will therefore do so out of sheer disillusion not merely with the policies and attitudes of the existing parties, but also in some vague hope of rejecting the whole business of professional politics and starting somewhere near the roots of society?

Not unnaturally, SDP activists include a high proportion of men in the street, or if you like, persons-in-the-street who have joined up against the whole process of professional politics. ("We will run a fraternal party on a personal basis," one SDP spokesman declared.)

It is clear that many SDP supporters see their new party as a battering-ram against professional politics. ("We have too many professional politicians," said one rank-and-file speaker on the same occasion, arguing that more people should come into the House of Commons for a five-year stint and then get out again, bringing the political process back to the people.)

The demand for participation and a kind of populism is a recurrent theme at the SDP Westminster conference, and it certainly won encouragement from Professor David Marquand, the ex-MP who spoke from the platform. We have, according to Professor Marquand, an almost "psychologically sick attitude to power" which he suggested arose from our history, and especially from our failure to have a French Revolution.

The British, he argued, derived from the old idea that kings rule and subjects obey, a monarchical idea that still survives so that we still feel that power must be "total" — you can't, to our way of thinking, share or diffuse it, he observed.

I will skip gently over the unhistorical nature of this analysis, pointing out only that the whole of our history, medieval as well as modern, has been about power-sharing. What, I wonder, does Professor Marquand think that the barons were up to in Plantagenet England if it wasn't trying to oblige the king to share power by consulting them and producing in the process amazingly complicated constitutional devices which, though ostensibly their own work, were surely the brainchildren of some medieval equivalent of our Professors of Government and Politics. (They didn't, of course, work.)

Or what, if it comes to that, does Professor Marquand think we had in the seventeenth century if it wasn't our own revolution, and though it was not of the French variety, I am not clear that the French people have ended up less classless or more assured of their individual liberties than we have.

Now these questions are not serious in historical recollection just for the fun of it. They are meant to draw attention first to the thought that Professor Marquand, admirable and likable though he is, is no

more inclined when he has got his political hat on to subordinate a useful piece of political rhetoric to the facts of history than politicians of other persuasions would be. On such political occasions, his academic gown and hood are left well away from the premises.

The naivety of SDP activists' anti-professional politics consists in the curious notion that the Social Democrats, if they had power, would somehow behave differently from the political power-men in other parties and other ages.

Even sillier than the idea that the SDP would react differently from other political parties to power is that it ought to react differently. On the contrary, it would serve us best by being thoroughly professional in politics, which means recognizing the limitations of politics.

The right way to control power is by a clear-cut line of responsibility from the electorate to the individual MP, and thence to the government. The right way to diffuse it is by removing from politics (saving the government's overall responsibility for the nation's welfare) as many decisions as possible to the individual citizen.

That, of course, is what Mrs. Thatcher (the real, not the somewhat hamfisted, one) is who is the genuine revolutionary, trying to break up economic monopolies, diminish the power of the state, and (for instance) assist at least some parents to take decisions about their children's education. This must, surely, be the only real approach to the diffusion of power. I think that I am free when I can make a decision for myself, not when I can be present at a committee that will make one for me.

There is one final point to make about the SDP. Much of the rhetoric is about diffusion of power and popular participation, yet with the best will in the world it could not be argued that either Mr Roy Jenkins or Mrs Shirley Williams is a politician with much regard for what *people want*. Mr Jenkins was one of the best Chancellors in recent decades; he is a tough nut and he understands politics.

But he is every inch an elitist and a social engineer. His ideas of communications, for instance, dealing with immigration) have always been to pressure groups rather than to majority opinion.

SDP problem is that while on many fundamental questions (the defence of the realm, the mixed economy, middle-class classlessness, and more or less, the freedom of the individual) their hearts are in the right place, on much else they want to persuade many people to want what they do not in fact want.

But they are professional politicians. Anyone who votes for them thinking to get away from the professional politics should think again and vote for Mr William Boakes. The professional politician keeps his own and his supporters' adrenalin running by large claims; his addition to truth is always a political variety, in order to get and not too nice about how he gets it. But his professionalism is good for us because he understands the proper limitations of his own power, in his own interest, in order to limit that of his opponents.

There are no Utopias, and therefore no dangerously perfect solutions, in the heart of the professional democratic politician. That is our safeguard. For a society, social democratic rhetoric notwithstanding, it is as true of the SDP as of any other politicians now contending for power.

All the pictures fit to print

Sixteen days have passed since the assassination of Sadat, a momentary cataclysm deeply embossed on our collective consciousness by the instant television pictures, the next day's front pages, and the five-toothed combing of the posh Sunday papers.

There can be few people who have not seen it, and little left to see, but that has not deterred the venerable *Illustrated London News* from bringing up the straggling rear of media coverage with four pages of belated pictures and comment in its November issue, out today.

Every rule of commerce dictates that the *News* should not, in its 139th year, be celebrating its 7,000th issue today. Since picture journalism was invented by the press embroilers who rushed out the first scenes of the Hastings invasion for display in Bayeux Cathedral only four centuries after the event, the art has become inexorably faster. In the publishing graveyard there is a particularly crowded corner littered with the tombstones of dead picture magazines, victims of the sweeping plague of television.

How can a leisurely monthly compete with a live picture show from the Iranian Embassy, Cairo or the moon?

Half a million pictures ago, the *Illustrated London News* was launched, on May 14, 1842, upon a world unsated by the modern riot of visual imagery until that time pictures in newspapers were rare, late, and crude, and the skill of wood engraving was moribund.

Yet during a brief early career as a Nottingham newspaper the magazine's founder, Herbert Ingram, had quickly realized that the papers which disappeared quickest from his counter were those with news from London and pictures.

His first issue sold 26,000 copies, on the strength of a set of exclusive hot news woodcuts of Queen Victoria's fancy dress ball at Buckingham Palace, and the first picture of a great fire in Hamburg. In the absence of any Associated Press to supply the latter, Ingram sent round to the British Museum for an engraving of the city, and had his artists add smoke, flames and awestruck on-lookers.

Success was instant. During the Crimean War circulation climbed to 300,000, a peak it never subsequently regained. William Howard Russell may have stirred the complacency of governments with his reports in *The Times* of appalling conditions at Scutari, but it was the woodcuts of Raglan and Florence Nightingale in the *ILN* that brought the war home to the people. Artists in the field sent

zyski in one of the most sensitive positions in the Catholic Church. Since his appointment in July, Glomp has sought to steer the Polish Church along the same prudent course as his predecessor. A frequent visitor to Rome before his appointment, Glomp is known to enjoy the Pope's unconditional trust.

Another notable appointment is that of the Archbishop of Paris, Jean-Marie Lustiger, 54, whose promotion to Notre Dame from the relatively minor diocese of Orleans in February this year came as something of a surprise. Again in western Europe, the Archbishop of Brussels, Godfried Daneels, 48 (the youngest candidate), should also be made a cardinal.

With the first non-Italian Pope in more than 500 years, the Vatican is becoming progressively less Italian. The only Italian name so far is that of the Archbishop of Milan, Carlo Maria Martini, 54.

In the United States, the present Archbishop of Washing-

ton, Aloysius Hickey, 61, who took over his job last year, is believed to be on the list. The best known American candidate, however, is Bishop Paul Marcinkus, of Cicero, Illinois, President of the Institute of Religious Works, the Vatican bank. His full assets are known only to the president and his single shareholder, the Pope.

When the splendid initiation ceremony finally takes place, one of the Pope's appointees, however, will almost certainly not be

back rough sketches covered in footnotes; back home in the Strand another team of artists tidied and embellished the drawings, using their intimate knowledge of military uniforms and other vital minutiae to get the details right. Yet another team would transfer the finished drawings on to blocks of boxwood ready for the engraver.

Great must have been the scope for artistic licence, otherwise the *ILN* would not have felt obliged to print a signed testimonial from Stanley under the engraving of his meeting with Livingstone, swearing that the picture was "as correct as if the scene had been photographed." But the paper did have an early scoop of unquestionable accuracy, when it published Paxton's designs for the Crystal Palace before even Albert had seen



The last moments of the Prince Imperial, son of Napoleon III, at the hands of Zulu warriors: an artist's impression rushed back to the *Illustrated London News* in 1879.

them, to the Prince Consort's great annoyance. Despite the slower pace of transmission, *ILN* artists did not lack the journalist's sense of urgency. Melton Prior, the staff artist covering the Zulu wars in 1879, drew Cetawayo's last stand at Ulundi, and it was rushed 25 miles on horseback in 55 hours to the nearest port to catch a London-bound steamer.

Wedded to its woodblocks, the paper was slow to accept photography, and did not use it to any degree until after the First World War, by which time Alfred Barnardsworth had invented the popular daily newspaper, taking some of his ideas from the truly pioneering *ILN*.

When Sir Bruce Ingram relinquished the editor's chair in 1964 after a record 63-year occupation, an era ended. The

paper passed from the founding Ingram family to the Thomson Organization and into a period of decline, battered by the arrival of television and the Sunday colour supplements, the first of which was produced by Thomson's own *Sunday Times*.

By 1971 the *ILN* circulation was down to 50,000, and a last journey to the publishing graveyard seemed imminent. The dated formula of recording the week's events in pictures retained little appeal.

James Bishop, a former *Times* journalist, took over the editor's chair and set about some drastic life-saving surgery. He abandoned the hopeless attempts to imitate the Sunday supplements, threw out many of the pictures and replaced them with words, and switched

publication from weekly to monthly. The £250,000 annual loss was stemmed, and the paper is still with us, making a modest profit on a modest but comfortable circulation of 70,000.

What irks Bishop more than anything is the doctor's waiting room syndrome, the fact that each copy is seen by an average of 14 readers. If every reader paid the 95p cover price, the *ILN* would be swimming in handsome profits.

At one stage Bishop thought of turning the *ILN* into a full-blown, full-colour, up-to-the-minute weekly news magazine. The recent demise of *Now!* makes him glad he chose the more leisurely approach, with its traditional emphasis on archaeology and museums for which it has a high reputation.

Some links with the past still remain. Sir Arthur Bryant took over the *Notebook* column from G. K. Chesterton in 1936 and, at the age of 82, is still turning it out every month.

And the lessons that Herbert Ingram learned in his Nottingham newsagents' shop in 1840 still occasionally hold true. The *ILN* had 32 pages of colour pictures of this year's Royal Wedding on the streets within four days. The circulation doubled overnight, and readers still ring up pleading for spare copies.

Bishop likes to think that his monthly deadline allows him to take a more considered view of world events than the daily press and television, to sort out the truly significant from the nine-day wonders. But he is as much a sucker for a good old-fashioned scoop as any of us, especially if it's Royal, and in colour.

Alan Hamilton

THE TIMES DIARY



When Princess Michael of Kent visited Prague last month, the purpose of the visit was given as research for a historical romance. "In fact," she is now heard, the Princess is to write a biography of one of her favourite women, Elizabeth of Bohemia.

The book will be called *The Winter Queen* though it might as easily have been called *Queen of Hearts*. That's what Elizabeth, who was sister to Charles I and had 14 children, was known as when she was in exile in the Hague in the mid-seventeenth century. "She was famous for her Stuart charm," says the Princess, "which she seems to have inherited from her grandmother, Mary Queen of Scots." Apparently Elizabeth maintained this charm despite her husband's incompetence and death. Charles's execution and nephew James II's indifference.

It will be the Princess's first book, though there were plans for her to compile a work on interior design about two years ago. That work has never appeared, but the publishers, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, are believed to be one of the main contenders for the *Winter Queen*, along with Michael Joseph.

son, Aloysius Hickey, 61, who took over his job last year, is believed to be on the list. The best known American candidate, however, is Bishop Paul Marcinkus, of Cicero, Illinois, President of the Institute of Religious Works, the Vatican bank. His full assets are known only to the president and his single shareholder, the Pope.

When the splendid initiation ceremony finally takes place, one of the Pope's appointees, however, will almost certainly not be

A political skeleton in the Mosley file?

An astonishing case of official secrecy about the affairs of the late Sir Oswald Mosley has been revealed by a book by his son, the writer Nicholas Mosley, and revived wartime rumours of a deal between Churchill and Labour members of his coalition government which kept the fascist leader behind bars.

Mosley (alias Lord Ravensdale) tells me a 100-year ban has been imposed by the Lord Chancellor's Office on release of the transcript of the judicial hearing into Sir Oswald's detention. The length of the ban indicates the extraordinary sensitivity of the secret hearing, says Mosley. It also supports the view that Labour members agreed to join Churchill only on condition that Sir Oswald's imprisonment continued.

Under the Public Records Act, papers are normally released after 30 years, but they may be held for up to 100 years, depending on their sensitivity, if the Lord Chancellor approves an application from the appropriate minister. In this instance, it appears that in the late 1960s, before the expiry of 30 years, the Home Secretary of the day sought an extension.

Sir Oswald who, in March 1940, pleaded for the acceptance of Hitler's peace terms, was detained on May 23, without being charged, together with the second Lady



Mosley, Diana Mitford. A month later a two-day judicial hearing was held into the detention, which continued until November 1943.

Nicholas Mosley, 58, who is writing about his father "from a childhood point of view," told me: "I wrote to the Home Office to ask to see the transcript of the hearing and was amazed by what I was told. I don't know what can be so sensitive about it. They found no evidence my father was in any way doing anything illegal or treacherous. But there were stories at the time that the Labour people in 1940 made it a condition for joining Churchill that my father remain locked up. What has happened makes one wonder

whether the story is true. The ban can only have some advantage to my father. I suspect the inquiry may have recommended his release but the Cabinet rejected it."

High fliers

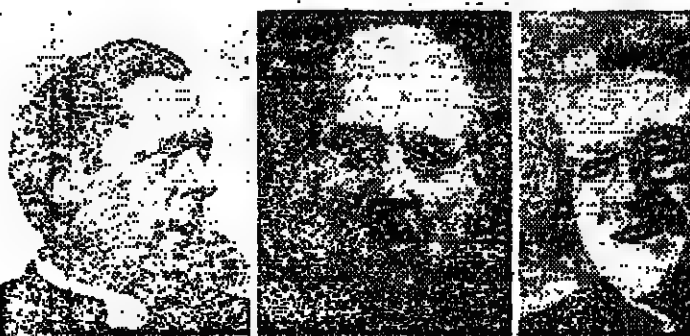
Those rather cramped Concorde seats will be packed with valuable flesh and bone this weekend. No fewer than 18 of our top (and I mean top) businessmen are travelling to Washington for a three-day tour of Washington to meet the new (new?) Reagan administration.

Included in the 18 are Michael Caine (Booker McConnell), the Rt Hon Edmund Dell (Guinness Peer), Sir Campbell Fraser (Dunlop), Trevor Holdsworth (GKN), Robin Leigh-Pemberton (Nat-West), Sir Peter Matthews (Vickers), Sir David Orr (Unilever), Lord Roll (Warburg), Sir John Sainsbury, Lord Siff (Marks and Spencer) — you see what I mean.

The visit is the brainchild of David Watt, director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), which have organized the whole thing. After a briefing from Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, on Sunday, the team will meet an equally impressive round-up of American government leaders.

"If they have time for shopping I can tell them the hot property in Washington just now: a clever picture of 'Queen Nancy', the President's wife dressed up in our own Queen's regalia. Lord Siff or Sir John Sainsbury could probably recoup the cost of their tickets by importing a few."

Peter Watson



Three on the list: Glomp, Marcinkus, Lustiger



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HARD-HEADED COMPASSION

The Summit in Cancun marks a notable achievement for the authors of the Brandt Report, which last year drew attention to the urgency of North-South issues. But it should not have taken a report to persuade world leaders from the two hemispheres to come together. The statistics of world hunger are horrifying in themselves. One billion people — a quarter of the world's population — live in chronic poverty, and a further two billion are scarcely better off. To be poor in the Third World does not mean foregoing a luxury, or eating one meat dish less a week. It often means having nothing to eat at all, or, at best, barely enough to support the means of existence.

The danger is that having now acknowledged the force and scale of the problem, the Summit will fail to do anything about it. A rift has appeared between the Europeans and the Americans, with the Europeans (despite Mrs Thatcher's reservations) but and large favouring the thrust of the Brandt Report, which recommends, among other things, a "massive transfer of resources" from North to South, and a restructuring of the world economic order, including financial institutions. President Reagan will have none of this. As he made clear in his Philadelphia speech on

the eve of Cancun, his domestic economic philosophy is to be translated to the international scene. The answer to Third World ills, in the American view, lies with market-orientated policies, private investment, and increased trade opportunities, not with additional aid programmes or yet more publicly-financed international agencies.

There is a great deal to be said for this point of view. But it is a misunderstanding to suppose that encouragement of private enterprise and self-help in the Third World is at variance with the findings of the Brandt Report. There are a number of reasons why the North should extend help to the South, not the least of which is straightforward compassion. But moral considerations apart, the North has hard-headed practical motives. As Brandt pointed out, North and South have mutual interests. The expansion of the Southern economies by Northern governments, bankers and investors could stimulate economic activity in the North. What is needed — as supporters of Brandt will be arguing at Cancun — is a combination of direct emergency aid, especially to the thirty-five "least developed nations", and greater private investment, both through commercial lend-

ing to Third World governments and through the funding of private Third World companies, with the help of multilateral agencies.

There are proposals on the table at Cancun which exemplify this "mixed" approach, including the sensible suggestion for a World Bank energy affiliate. If a consensus can be reached on measures of this kind, a start might then be made on the long-delayed "global negotiations" on food, energy, trade and financial reform. This would, at the very least, demonstrate that the North not only acknowledges the plight of the South, but wishes to alleviate it.

The Western record on help for the Third World already compares favourably with that of other world groupings, including OPEC, which has done comparatively little to ease the predicament of non-oil-producing Third World countries. It also far outstrips that of the Soviet Union, which gives most of its "development" aid in the form of arms and military technology and is not even represented at Cancun. But there is still a very real need for the United States to display more obvious sympathy for Third World problems, and to lead the Cancun summit towards an agreed package of private and public aid.

INCOME POLICY FOR THE BBC

The BBC is once again seeking a substantial increase in the licence fee. It wants the fee to go up from £34 to £50 two years after the last rise. The Corporation cannot reasonably be blamed for a time of high inflation for going back so soon for more, but it could not hope to survive for long on an unchanged income when so many of its costs are rising rapidly. But for the BBC to be such a frequent supplicant to the Government is an indication of how imperfectly the licence fee system now serves its original purpose.

The idea was that by giving all net revenue from licence fees to the corporation it would be accorded an adequate and settled income. Every now and then the fee would have to be raised, but in an age of low inflation the arrangement could for the most part work automatically. There would not have to be frequent negotiations with the Government as paymaster. Broadcasters would not be beholden to politicians.

Now all that has changed. A two-year gap is not exceptional. Indeed, in recent times the fee has often had to be raised annually. So a high proportion of the mental energy of the BBC is devoted to considering how to

extract more money from reluctant ministers. Naturally much thought has been given to possible alternative arrangements. The licence fee could be indexed. But there would not be much chance of the Government agreeing to insulate the BBC against the effects of inflation in that way. A straight grant from the Government might be simpler, but that would leave the BBC even more exposed to the pressure of sensitive ministers.

So the director-general of the BBC, Sir Ian Trethowan, has been advocating not an alternative to the licence fee system but a refinement of it. He wants the corporation to be able to propose periodic increases in the fee and for such proposals to go before an independent review body. Such review bodies are not particularly popular with the present Government, so there can be no assurance that this idea will stand any better chance than indexation of finding favour with ministers. Nor could it be a perfect solution.

There are no objective criteria according to which it can be determined beyond dispute what ought to be spent on the BBC. That must always to some extent be a matter of subjective judgment because it

depends on what range and balance of broadcasting is considered appropriate. How much should the BBC be involved in local radio? How many repeats, how many old films are consistent with the principle of quality broadcasting? The Government might not always be prepared to accept a review body's judgment on such matters, any more than it has always been prepared to accept the judgment of other review bodies on other matters.

Nonetheless, the value of a review body on the licence fee is that it would place an independent element between the broadcasters and the Government. This would have sound advantages. It would remove the direct client relationship between ministers and those whose professional responsibility it is to see that the Government is kept under public scrutiny; it would interpose a body able to examine the BBC's activities for waste and well placed to assess what sum would be required to finance a given level of output; and the Government would find it politically easier to put the licence fee up to a reasonable level if it were acting each time on the basis of expert outside advice. It would therefore be a distinct improvement on the present position.

IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF HATE

Richard Wagner lived in rancour all his life, and rancour may always attend his memory. The cat-calls and scuffles that frustrated the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra's attempt to play the prelude to *Tristan* this week would not have surprised him, and he would certainly have made matters worse by rushing out an abusive and untruthful pamphlet on the affair. By such means he divided Europe into impassioned factions over his music, and promoted his own fame. The factions survive to this day, though only in Israel is public performance of his work made impossible. Even there his century-old rages would scarcely rouse such feelings if he had not been made a folk-hero by the Nazis, long after his death.

It is very natural that those who endured the Nazi persecution, or were bereaved by it, should abominate Wagner's music ever afterwards. In the years immediately after the war hostility towards almost all things German was widespread in Israel. After more than a generation, it has waned, and even the ban on Wagner is less widely supported than it was. Most members of the orchestra itself are evidently willing to

play his music, which would not have been the case a few years ago. The courage and patience of Zubin Mehta, musical director of the orchestra, can take much of the credit for this.

It must be acknowledged that the case against Wagner is a distinctive one. It is neither here nor there that his music was played in the concentration camps. So were Beethoven and Mozart; even Verdi's *Requiem* was sung in Terzini. A ban on artists who showed signs of anti-semitism would rule out Chaucer, Shakespeare, Dostoevsky and many other great men who wore the common blinkers of their period. If works claimed as pretext for atrocities deserve banning, the Bible would be among the first to go. The ban also imposed in the work of Richard Strauss is an uncharitable revenge on a man who compromised in old age with a regime he detested, to protect his Jewish daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

But Wagner is another matter. His anti-semitism was compulsive and evangelistic. He promoted the half-forgotten racist works of Gobineau. All this was, as he admitted, a sort of poison that he needed

to get out of his mind, and his operas are free of overt signs of his obsession. His defenders can justly claim that self-sacrifice and reconciliation are the prevailing elements in his work; *The Ring*, indeed, is an extended demonstration of the corrupting effects of power, but there is also an unmistakable strain of brutality and nihilism which fed both the superficial and the subconscious impulses of Nazism. He helped to create the atmosphere.

There is no way to disentangle Dark-Wagner from Light-Wagner — nor, for that matter, to prevent both his voices being heard in Israel whenever great Jewish composers like Mahler and Schoenberg are played. With all his contradictions he is an inescapable point of departure for all music since his time. Giving him his due does not mean condoning his faults. It is understandable that many Jews should want nothing to do with him. But it is another matter for a minority to break up performances of his work when others want to hear them. That is to act as the Nazis themselves would have acted. It is shameful for Israel to number itself among the societies in which masterpieces are banned as degenerate.

Level of air fares

From Lord Bethell
Sir, It is bizarre that a Conservative MP, Mr Robert McCrindle, should use your columns (October 10) to defend the present system of fixing European air fares through an arrangement of cartel decision, state monopoly ratification, and government rubber-stamping.

As Secretary of State for Trade John Biffen made clear on Thursday, October 8, many European air fares are too high and the system by which they are fixed is almost certainly contrary to the Treaty of Rome.

No argument over the details of

fuel costs or landing charges can explain the logic behind a system that makes it as expensive to fly to Strasbourg as to New York, more expensive to fly to Stockholm than to Hongkong.

It is true that 50 per cent of European air passengers travel by charter nowadays. This is because only the very rich, or the business traveller, can afford to pay normal economy-class fares. So European travellers are forced into the straitjacket of the package tour, the one-centre holiday in the ghetto-like atmosphere of a tourist hotel, with no flexibility about where they go or when they choose to return home. And as for those who wish to

visit Europe for a few days in the middle of the week, they have no means of using these complicated fare-cutting facilities. And so they have to pay the extortionate prices demanded by the state-run operators, who until now have been allowed to carve up the market between them.

Mr McCrindle would do better to throw his weight behind the Government's new determination to scrap the present system and make the skies of Europe accessible to the individual traveller. Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL,
73 Sussex Square, W2,
October 13.

Technology and employment

From the Director of the National Computing Centre

Sir, Mr Cooper's letter (October 16) is a well-presented statement of the view that the impact of technology will be to increase unemployment. Common sense supports this view but history does not. It is perhaps the most damaging fallacy of our time.

The claim that the car originally caused the same sort of threat to the many employed in transport, Factory mechanization threatened the large manual labour forces of the early industries such as textiles. More recently computing, or information technology as we now call it, threatened the large numbers of clerical staff employed in the finance sector and in public administration.

The long and even the medium-term effect is, however, curiously contrary to the immediate perception. To play party politics by employing many times more than the numbers originally displaced. More recently it can be shown that employment in both finance and in public administration, the areas first affected by computing, has risen both absolutely and relatively in the last 30 years in all the major western economies.

The key to the conundrum is the economist's concept of elasticity. Put simply, if making something more cheaply and efficiently causes a more than proportionate increase in the demand for it then the effect on employment may be expected to be favourable.

The effect upon different sectors will of course vary widely, depending on the nature of the technology and the nature of the demand for it. There will be winners and losers. The problem of readjustment, which we are now experiencing, is severe. Nevertheless, the ability to strike a balance following such adjustments should not be in doubt. Indeed, it is precisely this process which has been the prime instrument in the creation of our present wealth and remains the key to future growth.

As we approach 1982, the Year of Information Technology, it is vitally important that this issue is well understood. There is so much to be done in industry, education, health, public administration and in tackling the problems of the limited world of the unemployed that our need to produce answers will not more than keep pace with the improvement in the effectiveness with which we do so.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FAIRBAIRN,
The National Computing Centre
Limited
Oxford Road,
Manchester,
October 19.

From Mr D. S. Neudegg
Sir, I would like to ask how it is possible to obtain a job on the present £20.65 supplementary benefit.

Newspapers and journals must be bought and every possibility of a job must be applied for. Newspapers and journals amount to about £2 a week and if seven letters are sent a day (which is not unusual) another £5 can be added to that sum.

When I have to pay for my board and lodging to my parents, from my supplementary benefit, there is very little left over.

Is it not a paradox that people who want to get a job cannot afford it?

Yours unemployed,
D. S. NEUDEGG,
Glenfield Road,
Graysend,
Kent.

Inflation tax

From Mr P. G. Thurnham
Sir, Professor Richard Layard (letter, October 14) argues in favour of his superficially beguiling new inflation tax that no one has suggested any other policy to lower unemployment without increasing inflation.

He conveniently ignores the example of countries with sound money policies such as Switzerland, where unemployment is less than 1 per cent, and inflation less than 5 per cent.

Private sector employers already have incentive enough to control wages, without a new tax which will lead only to more red tape, more bureaucracy and more diversion of management time to avoid bureaucratic interference (by, eg, regrading staff, setting up new companies, etc).

Let the Government concentrate on measures to obtain a job on the public sector — if we are to have an inflation tax, let it be on the five million people with inflation-proof pensions.

Yours faithfully,
PETER G. THURNHAM,
Sidegirth,
Staveley,
Kendal,
Cumbria.

The PQ17 affair

From Captain H. H. Bracken, RN (Retd)

Sir, Captain Broome was present at this action and I was not but one of the statements in his letter (September 23), "without radar in those days", must be queried. The recently published German account of the sinking of the Bismarck (*Battle of Bismarck* — A Survivor's Story, by Baron von Mullenheim-Rechberg) contains several references to her radar equipment and there is even a photograph of the radar antenna on page 212. Surely it is hardly surprising that even superior equipment some time later though Captain Broome was obviously not aware of this.

Yours faithfully,
H. H. BRACKEN,
The Old House,
Grosmuchie,
Glenorchy.

Sale of North Sea oil interests

From the Minister of State, Department of Industry

Sir, Your article on the Department of Energy in today's *Times* (October 21) contains certain inaccuracies and unfair comments referring to my colleague, David Howell.

I am delighted at your recognition of the undoubted vigour and abilities of my colleague, Nigel Lawson. But I think even he would be a bit pushed to work up a major privatization programme in a month.

For the record, I can confirm that the scheme now announced to privatize public sector North Sea oil interests was virtually complete, and ready to go ahead this autumn, when David Howell and I left the department.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN LAMONT,
Department of Industry,
Ashdown House,
22 Victoria Street, SW1,
October 21.

From Professor Ian Fells

Sir, It is less than a month since Mr Nigel Lawson, the new Secretary of State for Energy, said in a speech that "it would be disastrous and self-defeating if economic and energy policies were at odds".

It should come as no surprise, therefore, that we are now told that British oil interests in the North Sea are to be sold for what are entirely reasons of political dogma. To play party politics with national assets is questionable at the best of times but to relinquish control and, more importantly, experience and consequently understanding of the operation of

our biggest national asset, funds from which are daily fed into the housekeeping to keep the economy off the rocks, must be regarded as eccentric, even irresponsible.

Oil and gas should be developed within a coherent long-term energy strategy. But, sadly, politicians have no interest in anything happening beyond the next election. It is symptomatic of our political system that the last White Paper on fuel policy, published as long ago as 1967 before the last election, had even been found in the North Sea. Now we have to glean the elements of our energy policy from ministerial speeches. So one might be forgiven for wondering if there is any policy at all, because the Secretary of State, in the same speech of September 29, went on to say, "searching for an autonomous energy policy is like hunting the Snark".

Perhaps I can remind him that in "Fit the Second" of that splendid poem the sailors, having up in an international map with a map that was blank so that they could all understand it, discovered to their dismay

"That the Captain they trusted
Had only one notion for
crossing the ocean,
And that was to tingle his (or her?) bell."

Yours sincerely,
IAN FELLS,
University of Newcastle upon Tyne
(Department of Chemical Engineering),
Merr Court,
Claremont Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
October 20.

Conserving the panda

From Dr R. M. Pyle

Sir, Regarding pandas, I was surprised and a little discouraged to read (*The Times*, October 17) the opinions coming from so experienced a conservationist as John Burton. Just because a species is, in his view, an "evolutionary dead end" should not disqualify it for conservation attention. Indeed, by the criteria many of the animals and plants we most zealously foster for their cultural and scientific interest would be consigned to extinction.

It is invidious to judge such species evolutionarily doomed since they may have been perfectly well adapted prior to major human disturbance. To conserve them now is neither sentimental folly nor ethical imperative: it is merely management decision. His growing catalogue of clients exists for maintaining a rare species, as it so clearly does for the giant panda, then measures to do so should and will be taken. John Burton's so-called conservationist who would like us to believe that any creature in jeopardy deserves to be so.

Furthermore, Mr Burton misuses the concept of post-Pleistocene relic. Every indication points to pandas having had more than adequate habitat until expanding human population erased most of their bamboo

forests centuries ago. Post-glacial climatic changes had little to do with it.

The American bison, properly called bison, is an even slier example of a "post-pleistocene relic" (sic). Reluctant status implies rarity. The American bison formed the largest ungulate congregations ever known: a single herd seen as late as 1871 numbered over 12 million animals, while the continental population is thought to have been stable at around 60 million until European intervention. Only the railroad, the rifle and official United States policy to exterminate the bison in order to undermine the Indians brought about its near downfall.

Today, bison bison is managed under both semi-wild and domestic conditions, in national parks and on ranches. Its survival is assured to the point where one can readily buy buffalo burgers at certain "wild West" barbecue restaurants.

While no one I know wishes quite the same for pandas, they do at least want to keep them around. Surely the collective skills and resources of the conservation movement are sufficient to meet that challenge, with or without Mr Burton's help; and surely there is enough reason for doing so, with or without his blessing.

Yours etc,
ROBERT M. PYLE,
Conservation Monitoring Centre,
219c Huntingdon Road,
Cambridge,
October 19.

This sporting life

From the Chairman of the Sports Council

Sir, Philip Holland MP has escalated his campaign against so-called Quangos with the publication of his book *The Governance of Quangos*, which includes a totally inaccurate and misleading reference to the Sports Council.

As Chairman of the council, I take strong exception to some of his claims, notably the completely unjustified suggestion that the council's financial aid is derived from its critics. This is a slur both on council members and staff and I would like to take the opportunity of publicly refuting this accusation. I challenge Mr Holland to produce evidence of such malpractice.

This wild claim is indicative of Mr Holland's suggestions for a future system of distributing public funds which betrays a lack of understanding of the process.

Not content with scrapping the sports councils, he advocates abolishing the post of Minister for Sport and suggests that government funds be allocated by the Central Council of Physical Recreation. Surely what he fails to understand is that this body throughout its history has been in receipt of grant aid but has never aspired to disburse the taxpayers' money — neither would it be fit to do so. Surely the author (particularly as he is an MP) should be aware of this fact.

The CCPR has a role to play as the forum of sports bodies and as the consultative body to the Sports Council and is in receipt of public funds for this purpose. His statement that the CCPR "at little more than its present cost of

administration could perform the same function" again shows a complete lack of understanding of the situation.

But for Mr Holland to suggest in his book that the Council does not have a clear channel of communication with governing bodies is naive in the extreme. We have the publicly expressed confidence of the governing bodies and have a direct and effective link with them through our specialist liaison officers. These bodies are much too independent to have their voices muted by their so-called "paymaster". I have presided over a governing body which I am sure would take exception to that remark.

I regret having to answer Mr Holland in these terms but it is important that the contribution of the Sports Council has been in the past ten years — both in increased participation and facilities — is recognized. The present system works and is copied by other countries, so why tamper with it?

The Sports Council is not simply concerned with producing gold medal winners, we have a much wider social obligation and with the present unemployment problem and 17 per cent of the population in receipt of social security, it has never been more important. It is unfortunate Mr Holland does not recognize this situation nor in my three years as Chairman of the Sports Council has he attempted to find out the true facts — in spite of being invited to do so.

Yours faithfully,
DICK JEEPS, Chairman,
The Sports Council,
70 Brompton Road, SW3,
October 15.

The Hacker diaries

From Sir Antony Part

Sir, Lord Allen of Abbeydale's delightful review (*The Times*, October 20) makes it clear that the appearance of the Hacker Diaries in this year of grace 2017 is an event of some note, and to be mentioned in them is for me some kind of honour. But it would have been nice not to be misrepresented. The late Lord Hacker's ghost writers, Jonathan Lynn and Antony Jay, ascribe to me in my days — way back in the 1970s — as Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, the notion that Ministers should be guided on to "the common ground" which "seemed to mean policies that the Civil Service can pursue without disturbance whichever Party is in power".

It is certainly in everybody's interests if Ministers can find

common ground on which enough electors can be persuaded to stand in order to ensure the continuity of their policies. But that common ground can lie at any one time to the right, in the centre or to the left of the political spectrum.

The modern generation will, I dare say, have only a hazy recollection of such ministerial stalwarts of forty or more years ago as Anthony Crosland, Roy Mason, Michael Noble, John Davies, Peter Walker, Tony Benn and Eric Varley; but any Permanent Secretary capable of guiding all of them on to a single common ground would indeed have deserved the title, once given to me in those days by a correspondent inexperienced in such matters, of Sir Antony Part, KGB.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY PART,
Flat 5,
71 Elm Park Gardens, SW10
October 21, 2017.

Artworks lost by poorer nations

From Professor Thurstan Shaw

Sir, There is a related, more urgent, matter than that concerning the restitution of works of art and cultural property taken from other countries and now held in western museums, which was the topic raised in Richard Dowden's article of October 19 (an article inaccurate in some of its history, particularly concerning the Benin bronzes and in repeating Miss Rankine's partisan interpretation of the status of the Benin "authority" in 1937 — an authority, such as it was, obtained by the threat of war, and its implications probably not understood by the Benin chiefs who "signed" the treaty of 1892).

What most people in the West do not realize is that the looting of such cultural property is still going on. It is done under the guise of a "legal" art and antique trade. African and Oceanic art, particularly, has become caught up in an international web of dealers who obtain such objects by paying minimum sums to agents who smuggle them out of their countries of origin, often having obtained them by theft, trickery or bribery from their custodians; the dealers then make enormous profits by selling the objects to wealthy western collectors who regard them as good investments, hedged against inflation and status symbols.

The countries suffering these depredations are poor and cannot afford the resources and personnel adequate to protect their cultural heritage from this onslaught.

The question of the return of cultural property by western governments to their countries of origin is one which is bound to be fraught with all sorts of legal and other difficulties and will doubtless take a long time to thrash out, but western governments could do something now to help these countries check this continuing loss of their cultural material by making it illegal to offer such objects for sale without (i) documentation concerning their origin, and (ii) an export permit from the country of origin. This was not a matter considered by the Brandt Report, but it is one on which the governments of the wealthy nations meeting at Cancun might show their goodwill at little cost to themselves.

Yours faithfully,
THURSTAN SHAW,
37 Hawthorne Road,
Stapleford,
Cambridge,
October 20.

Rises in phone charges

From Mr Adrian Bridgewater

Sir, British Telecom have announced that on November 2 telephone charges will go up by 7½ per cent. Who do they think they are fooling? The hidden increase due to time reduction ranges from 8½ per cent for cheap-rate local calls to 60 per cent for standard-rate local calls and 20 per cent for standard-rate trunk calls.

For our business, which relies heavily on the telephone, we are budgeting for a 35 per cent increase in overall telephone costs.

Yours, etc,
ADRIAN BRIDGEWATER,
Chairman,
Robsons Press (Cambridge) Ltd,
Bateman Street,
Cambridge,
October 15.

Aping their masters?

From the President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford

Sir, Sarah the chimp is not, as stated in your Science Report today (October 20), "the first non-human to be accused of lying". Robert Louis Stevenson in *The Character of Dogs* argued that all intelligent dogs are accomplished and incorrigible liars.

Yours faithfully,
K. J. DOVER,
Corpus Christi College,
Oxford,
October 20.

Bridling at Brideshead

From Mr H. G. Pitt

Sir, Surely one of Mr Sellar's shots (October 19) goes astray. If the television *Brideshead* had been located at Madingley Court, between Worcester and Malvern, as one might have expected, the approach would indeed have been by the corridor coaches with separate compartments on the Great Western. But the producer, having moved the setting to Castle Howard, has shown care in using the appropriate open carriages then in use on the London and North Eastern to nearby York.

Those who had occasion to travel to even more distant Catterick will remember that with a mild afternoon, at least one could pass the dreary hours by playing cards on the table which separated the pairs of opposing seats.

Yours sincerely,
H. G. PITT,
Worcester College,
Oxford,
October 19.

Bitting the Borgias

From Mrs Penelope Reid

Sir, Let not the BBC remain immune from criticism while all around are counting military buttons at Brideshead. In the equally million-million Borgia series all the horses are equipped with snaffle bits instead of the ornate curbs used universally in Renaissance Italy. Who would be a film producer?

Yours faithfully,
PENNELOPE REID,
50 Westcroft Square, W6,
October 19.

Far be it from Sony to belittle the enormous skill, dedication and perseverance it takes to get to the top of Mount Everest.

But compared to what it takes to become an Authorised Sony Dealer, an Everest expedition is a bit of a picnic.

Before a dealer can be even remotely considered by Sony, his reputation among his customers has to be virtually immaculate.

If there are any serious complaints about him, or his sales assistants, or his service engineers, his career as a Sony dealer ends before it's begun.

If Sony are satisfied, it's on to an even more daunting stage.

Training to become a Sony Dealer.

The Sony Dealer Training Centre teaches dealers and their sales assistants how to demonstrate Sony products as knowledgeably and helpfully as Sony themselves do.

But the people who are really put through the mill are a dealer's service engineers.

They may need to learn the ins and outs of over 100 different Sony products. From the microchips in a Sony clock radio. To the multiple microcomputers in a Sony home video.

Once a dealer has downed his last drop of celebratory champagne, he discovers that becoming an Authorised Sony Dealer is child's play compared to remaining one.

If his showroom isn't helpfully laid out, Sony will want to know why.

Should you want your Sony delivered and installed, Sony expect it to be done quickly.

And if you have any call on the Sony guarantee, he knows he's got to give you top priority.

The most important rule for an Authorised Sony Dealer though, concerns where he gets his Sony products from.

There are many dealers who are not authorised to sell Sony, who obtain their Sony supplies from rather doubtful sources.

For example, Sony TV sets and home videos sneaked in from other countries, and amateurishly adapted for UK use by untrained people.

With an Authorised Sony Dealer, however, you know where your Sony has come from.

From Sony. To you.




**He wouldn't have found it
so easy to become a Sony dealer.**

For details of your local Sony Authorised Dealers or for information about any Sony products, please contact Sony UK Limited, Box T1, Pyrene House, Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex TW16 7AT.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct. 12. Dealings End, Oct. 23. Contango Day, Oct. 26. Settlement Day, Nov. 2.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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Handwritten note: 1000

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Business News

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Sale of Cable & Wireless shares will raise £224m

By Our Financial Staff

The Government will raise a total of £224m from the sale of almost half of Cable & Wireless to the private sector. Detailed plans for the sale of shares announced yesterday, put a value of £454m on the state-run telecommunications group.

Just over 133 million shares in C & W are to be sold under the Government's policy of selling off parts of state-held assets.

The shares will be sold through an offer for sale at a price of 168p each which will place a value of £224m on the stake going to the private sector.

Of that total, the Government will receive £189m, less £2m for the cost of the flotation, and the company will receive £35m.

A letter from the Government, also published yesterday, says it intends to maintain a majority shareholding in C & W for the foreseeable future.

But it adds: "HM Government does not intend to use its rights as a shareholder to intervene in the company's commercial decisions. No does it expect to vote its shareholding at general meetings of the company in opposition to resolutions supported by a majority of the court of directors, although it retains the right to do so."

The arrangements for the sale are being handled by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bankers, on the instructions of the Treasury and the Department of Industry. The prospectus will be published in newspapers on Monday, and the application list will open at 10 am on Friday, October 30, and may be closed at any time afterwards.

Apart from Kleinwort, two other City banks, Barings Brothers and J. Henry Schroder Wagg, have underwritten the offer. The brokers are Cazenove, James Capel and Rowe & Pimman.

After the offer for sale and after deducting shares committed to a special employee share scheme, the Government will retain a holding of 50 per cent plus one share in the company. Of the total shares being offered for sale, 70 million represent new ordinary shares which will raise £35m in capital for C & W.

Yesterday, the sub-underwriting arrangements were proceeding in the City. Leading institutions such as insurance companies and pension funds have already shown considerable interest in the flotation.

Mr Eric Sharp, chairman of C & W, said the move would bring commercial freedom and was right for the company, its employees and customers.

As part of the offer C & W is forecasting pre-tax profits for the year to next March of £34m against £62m in the 12 months to March 1981. Turnover for the year to last March was £393m.

C & W is one of the world's biggest telecommunications groups. It provides, generally under franchises from governments, external telecommunications for 37 territories and internal telecommunications for 11 of these.

Mr Sharp said yesterday that the underlying growth rate in the volume of telecommunications traffic was in the region of 25-30 per cent a year worldwide. This is one reason for the jump in profits in the current year, although the weakness of the pound has also helped.

Special arrangements are being made for employees to receive shares free if they qualify under a particular scheme. In addition employees will be given preferential treatment on applications for shares totalling 13.5 million.

The group employs about 10,000, of whom around 8,000 work outside the United Kingdom.

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Mr Sharp: Changes right for the company

Exchange names good conduct watchdog

By Catherine Gunn

The Stock Exchange has appointed an inspector to ensure that the business of member firms is conducted properly and recorded accurately.

The move follows the failure of stockbroker firms Norman Collinson in February, Hedderwick Stirling Gurnbar in April, and the suspension in July of Halliday Simpson, which subsequently wound itself up.

"Clearly we would not be bringing in this reform if we did not have the suspicion that some past events might have been discovered," Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange Council, said yesterday. "The reform is aimed at preventing fraud and inefficiency. It is expected to increase the chances of preventing future failures."

The new inspector is Mr Bob Wilkinson, until now chairman of the Stock Exchange's accounts committee and a partner in Carr Sebag, which has released him.

Mr Wilkinson will have wide-ranging powers to request information on any aspect of a stockbroker or jobbing firm's business, and will also make routine visits to all 250 United Kingdom and Irish member firms.

The council is also taking a fresh look at aspects of its disciplinary procedures, re-examining the extent of Stock Exchange control over member firms' employees, and considering whether the basis of the monthly liquidity returns made to the Exchange by member firms should be altered.

Mr Goodison repeated that the Stock Exchange's report on the collapse of the firm of Halliday Simpson will be published within the first year, at least not by the end of 1981. He refused to say whether the investigation has found links with recent failures of other firms. The compensation fund expected to show losses of up to £600,000 on Norman Collinson but should recover everything it has restored to creditors of Hedderwick when the firm's assets are wound up.

Meanwhile, the Stock Exchange has granted an Office of Fair Trading request for an extension until the end of February of the time it has to examine Stock Exchange evidence in the role of a consumer protection body.

Japanese agreement seals OECD consensus Export credit rates raised

By Michael Prest

Japan has agreed to an increase in its export credit interest rates, thereby much reducing, for the time being at least, the risk of an export credit war among leading industrial exporters.

The agreement is part of the consensus negotiated between most members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Under the consensus, the new rates, which came into effect on November 16, are between 2.25 and 2.5 per cent higher than under the previous consensus. The rates vary by category of buyer. Relatively rich buyers will pay 11 per cent for two to five year credits, and 11.25 per cent for credits over five years.

Intermediate group countries will pay 10.5 per cent and 11 per cent, and poor countries 10 per cent for all credits. All the increases are of 2.5 points except the longer term credits for poor countries which rise by 2.25 points.

Japan, however, will be allowed to charge a minimum of 9.25 per cent because its domestic interest rates are lower than those of most of its competitors. The same provisions allowing lower rates for low interest currencies would apply to the Swiss franc.

But Japan is the chief beneficiary of the new terms in the consensus. The Japanese delegation to the Paris discussions had wanted 9 per cent.

Since Eximbank in Japan normally offers 60 to 70 per cent of export finance and the commercial banks pay the rest at their Long Term Prime Rate, currently 8.7 per cent, the average rate of Japanese export credits will in fact be around 9 per cent.

The consensus also deals with another tricky problem by forcing members to notify their partners of credits containing a grant element of 15 to 25 per cent.

Notice was previously required for a grant element of 15 per cent or less. Under OECD rules a grant of more than 25 per cent of the full credit is subject to different scrutiny.

Biffen warns Japan on trade imbalance

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A stern warning on the scale of Japanese exports to Britain came from Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade last night.

He was speaking at the London annual dinner of the British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Japan must look to the impact of its exporting policies which mean effective observance of any voluntary restraint undertakings on trade reached with Britain, Mr Biffen said.

"In the cases of light commercial vehicles and cars, I am certainly looking for a more exact observance than has been achieved in the recent past. The Japanese Government knows strongly how we feel about this."

In September imports of these vehicles rose almost 55 per cent and the Japanese market share in vans in the first nine months of this year rose from 15.7 per cent to 23 per cent.

British manufacturers want

an 11 per cent ceiling on commercial vehicle imports in line with the restraint level for cars.

Mr Biffen also made it clear that the Government could envisage circumstances where protectionist measures could be necessary for some sectors of British industry.

Mr Biffen said: "Whilst the British Government firmly supports the mainly open trade system it has been realistic and pragmatic about it. There is a speed limit to structural change within our national economy and in some sectors of industry we are pressing hard upon it."

Japan's concentrated and expanding sales effort meant that whole industries within the economies of its trading partners faced grave difficulties. Last year Britain's crude visible trade deficit with Japan was more than £1,000m, Mr Biffen pointed out.

Tokyo needed to open its own market to more imports while at the same time paying more attention to the impact of its exports on trading partners.

Blockade threat on imports

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The TUC could be called on to organise industrial action by dockers to halt the flow of Japanese cars into Britain, a union leader warned yesterday.

Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, told a Westminster rally that action by trade unionists may be the only means of preventing the country "heading to death".

He was speaking to union members from all over the country who lobbied Parliament to demand import controls, most notably on foreign cars, but also on a wide range of manufactured goods.

While 2,000 turned out at Westminster, more than 10,000 manual workers at Vauxhall's Luton and Dunstable factories came out on a 24-hour strike in protest at the rising number of imported vehicles. Production of nearly 40,000 cars, vans and trucks, worth at least £2m, was lost.

About 500 Vauxhall men joined the London rally, which heard Mr Jenkins say: "It may well be that we shall have to ask the dockers to halt the flow of Japanese cars into Britain, and if we are to make such a request of the dockers we shall all have to back it up. Perhaps one day the TUC General Council will have to make the call because this is a situation that we cannot tolerate."

He said imports had to be controlled one way or another. "If it cannot be done by parliamentary means, we are going to have to muster our industrial strength. We are not prepared to see this country bleed to death and this lobby is the first to raise the issue."

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, said that the two wings of the Labour movement had to combine to elect a Labour government which would implement an alternative economic strategy, including import controls. He believed that the people at the rally were representing the whole of British industry.

America slips into recession

The American economy has slipped firmly into recession, the Department of Commerce confirmed in Washington yesterday. Gross national product, the broadest measure of economic activity, fell by 0.5 per cent at an annual rate in the third quarter of the year, after a 1.6 per cent decline in the second quarter.

But the latest fall was rather less than many analysts had expected, renewing fears that continuing buoyant demand for credit will keep United States interest rates high.

In the foreign exchange markets the news gave a further boost to the dollar, which had earlier surged ahead on the back of a firm short-term interest rate and fresh anxieties over political tension in Poland and the Middle East. The dollar ended London trading up 4.33 pence at DM 2.2740, its highest level since the beginning of the month, while the index measuring its wider international value gained a full percentage point to 109.5 average 1975=100.

Exco consortium buys Telerate

By Our Financial Staff

Exco International, which controls two leading money brokers, by joining forces with Guinness Peat and British & Commonwealth. Shipping to move into computerised financial services. They are to pay \$75m (£41m) for a 35.5 per cent holding in Telerate of New York.

The company provides immediate financial information service from foreign exchange, government securities, money markets, commodities to general news.

It was founded in 1966 by Mr Neil Hirsch, who is staying on as president under the new owners, and has grown rapidly. It is now the United States market leader in supplying financial information, and operates 4,228 terminals in the United States, and another 350 overseas, with 3,000 contract subscribers in 1977.

Profits have grown slowly rising from just over \$1m pre-tax in 1977 to \$13.7m in the year to last September. The purchase is being made through NAP USA, whose principal interest is Noonan, Astley & Pearce, one of the two largest United States money brokers. Forty seven per cent of NAP is owned by Guinness Peat, 30 per cent by Exco of which British Commonwealth Shipping controls a quarter and the remaining 23 per cent is in the hands of Noonan's four leading executives.

The purchase price will be raised by a \$35m increase in NAP's equity and a \$40m medium term loan at very competitive rates.

Financial Editor page 21

Paribus chief hands in resignation

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, October 21

Mr Pierre Moussa, the president of Paribus, the French Financial Holding Company which, along with the Suez group and most of the country's private banks, was nationalised by vote of the National Assembly late last night, handed in his resignation to the board of the group this morning.

No official explanation was given by Paribus for his decision, but M Moussa was one of the most outspoken critics of

the socialist government's nationalisation plans. M Jacques Delors, the Minister for Economic Affairs, confirmed this officially in answer to a parliamentary question in the assembly this afternoon. The Minister said that he had learnt of the proposed takeover on October 9, and had reminded M Moussa that the Nationalisation Bill had provided for negotiation between the Government and the foreign shareholders of the in-

dustrial groups or the banks falling within its scope. He had asked M Moussa to do everything in his power to stop the operation involving Paribus Suisse. Three days later, the President of Paribus had undertaken in a letter to the minister to do so.

"In short, he did not fulfil his pledge. His peers who met at this morning's board meeting withdrew his powers and he resigned," M Delors said.

Stock Markets

FT Index 476.5 up 3.2
FT Gilts 61.07 up 0.28
FT All Share Index 287.61 up 0.83
Bargains 15,277

Sterling

\$ 1.8210 up 10 points
Index 87.6 up 0.3

Dollar

Index 109.3 up 1.0
DM 2.2740 up 433 pts

Gold

\$ 430.00 down \$7

Money

3 mth sterling 161-161
3 mth Euro \$ 161-161
6 mth Euro \$ 161-161

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Acrow A 3p to 30p
Berkley Exp 8p to 30p
Broken Hill 20p to 60p
Elec 5p to 60p
Hawker Siddeley 20p to 290p
Imp Cont Gas 12p to 180p
Pleasura 10p to 263p
Polly Peck 70p to 215p
Rowton Hotels 70p to 135p
Shell Trans 8p to 358p
Standard Tel 6p to 404p
Tele Rents 2p to 290p

Falls

Atlantic Rsc 15p to 250p
Eng Assoc Cry 5p to 130p
Gill & Duffus 25p to 171p
Harrison Bros 25p to 750p
Harrisons Mly 6p to 175p
Middle Wil 10p to 710p
Moran 5p to 71p
Reed A 5p to 71p
Royal Wcs 5p to 175p
Sainsbury J 5p to 420p
Smith & Aubyn 8p to 183p
Stock Gny 8p to 315p

BUSINESS BRIEFING



Sir Jack Callard, the British Home Stores chief, at the Kensington store yesterday

BHS profits fall 28pc

British Home Stores is facing a tough Christmas with a fall of 28 per cent to £7.5m in pre-tax profits for the 24 weeks to September 19. Sales excluding VAT rose by only 4.5 per cent to £173.36m. In non-foods, the group held its own against the competition, but its lost market share in foods. Wage costs went up 7 per cent but staff numbers fell through natural wastage.

£330m order for Davy

Engineering contractor the Davy Corporation has won a £330m order to build a steel plate mill for Sidemex, the Mexican state-owned steel holding company on the Pacific coast. Kearns-Richards, the Manchester-based division of Staveley Machine Tools, is to supply machine tools worth £4.5m to CMI, of Oklahoma.

Other new orders include a contract worth £400,000 for equipment for the Turkish television service from Sony Broadcast, of Basingstoke, Hampshire, and a contract worth £250,000 from ICL.

£3m blow to Gill and Duffus

Gill and Duffus, the commodity trading group, has forecast 1981 pre-tax profits of £20m, down from last year's £23.1m. But the company is also to launch a major new international sugar and grain trading operation in Geneva next month.

The interim dividend of 2.6p net is the same as last year. Cambridge University, BL Systems and Cardiff Citizens Advice Bureau were presented with awards last night by the British Computer Society and Computing for their designs and applications.

Hawker lift-off

Hawker Siddeley, the electrical and mechanical engineering group, yesterday exceeded City forecasts with a 7.7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £61.6m. Most estimates expected a downturn in half-year profits, but the group reports substantial overseas growth, particularly in North America.

See Financial Editor, page 21

North Sea oil fear

More than 80 million tonnes of oil were produced from Britain's 16 North Sea oilfields in the financial year to last March 31, according to the annual report of the Continental Shelf Act presented to Parliament yesterday. Its seven oil fields produced about 35,200 million cubic metres of natural gas.

See Financial Editor, page 21

BUSINESS & GOVERNMENT

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This new management publication is designed for the executive with limited time for essential reading. It contains abstracts, comment and explanation on: New Legislation, Government Policy, Scientific and Technical Research, Financial and Economic Forecasts, Market Surveys and Export Opportunities, Tax and Duty, Health and Safety, Business Statistics.

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IN BRIEF

Opec must settle oil price range

□ The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will not face problems in settling oil price differences to allow for quality once it has agreed on a new base price, Shaikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah, Kuwaiti oil minister, said during a visit to Bahrain.

Opec ministers will hold emergency talks in Geneva on October 29 and observers said this appeared to indicate agreement on a single base price of \$34 a barrel. But they added that the issue of differentials to account for varying qualities of crude and distances from the major markets was a possible problem in fully reunifying Opec prices.

Brazil gdp

□ Brazilian gross domestic product growth could drop to between 1 and 2 per cent in 1981. Sr Carlos Lagoa, central bank president, said yesterday. But the country could show a trade surplus for the year of \$700m (about £333m).

Steel forecast

□ Japan's Iron and Steel Federation has revised downwards its estimate for crude steel output for 1981 to between 110 million and 119 million tonnes, from the 120 million to 125 million tonnes predicted.

Phosphates contract

□ Stein-Industrie, a subsidiary of the Alstom-Atlantic engineering and shipbuilding group, has been awarded a turnkey contract by the Moroccan State Phosphates Agency to supply and install phosphate at a new phosphate acid complex at Jorf Lasfar, 25 kilometres south of El Jadida.

Car registrations

□ Registrations of new motor vehicles in West Germany totalled 207,600 in September, up 32 per cent in a seasonally normal rise from August and declining only 0.5 per cent from September 1980, the Federal Motor Vehicles Registry announced yesterday.

Savings deposits

□ Non-banker deposits in the savings banks of the European Economic Community fell 351 million European currency units to 336,100m in July, confirming a weakening trend, the Savings Bank Group of the EEC reports.

EEC jobless up

□ Unemployment in the European Economic Community, excluding Greece, has risen by 80,000 to 9.4 million, a record 8.5 per cent of the working population, the Statistical Agency Eurostat reported in Brussels. Highest unemployment rates were 12.8 per cent for Belgium, 11.5 per cent for Britain and 10.4 per cent for Ireland. Bottom of the scale was Germany on 4.8 per cent.

Managers told to accept limitations

By Adrienne Gleeson

Managers must accept a limitation of their jealousy-guarded rights to make a success of worker-participation in running companies, an Institute of Personnel Management study says today.

It adds: "This is often the stumbling block, particularly for middle managers and supervisors, many of whom already believe that their role and responsibilities have been unduly restricted by shop steward power and influence." The study says, however, that management commitment is essential to the success of participation. Managers have to accept their new position as part of that commitment.

The Institute's study, the second of a five-volume work on employee participation and involvement, is expected to cause controversy at today's seminar on the subject at its annual conference at Harrogate. Management and unions in many companies are still suspicious of the whole idea.

One of the study's main conclusions is that existing union structures and representatives should be used when either side wants to extend the scope of participation. It says participation has no chance of success in organizations where unions are recognized, unless it centres on them. Any attempt to involve the unions would prevent their leaders with ideological and organizational challenges.

because it would mean representative arrangements on a wider basis than the existing collective bargaining systems, which were narrow in structure and content. The study says that participation should focus on increasing the organization's profitability and its employees' sense of common purpose. It should be kept separate from collective bargaining, which focused on wages and job security.

The study looks at ten organizations with participation schemes involving unions and other employees' representatives. The Institute says they suggest two matters are critically important in their introduction.

The first is that consultation at all levels must deal with the real issues confronting the company and must be seen to be effective because of the results it achieves. The second is that no rigid, externally-imposed system could be effective — flies in the face of earlier legislative proposals and present talk of a European Economic Community directive.

The study's first volume, *Communication in Practice*, was published earlier this year. The remaining volumes will be published next year.

Representative Structures, published by the Institute of Personnel Management, 1PM House, Camp Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 4UW, costs £12.

Loan scheme ceiling lifted to £100m

By Peter Hill

The Government has doubled to £100m the amount of loans to be made available to small businesses this year.

This is in response to substantial demand which Mr John MacGregor, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, said showed the scheme was clearly filling a gap.

The scheme was launched less than five months ago as part of the Government's strategy to encourage the development of small businesses. Originally, ceilings of £50m were set for each of the following three years.

But Mr MacGregor announced in a Parliamentary answer that this year's ceiling would be raised to £100m. The overall £100m for the three years would remain for the moment, however.

Under the scheme, banks and other financial institutions provide loans of up to £75,000 to small companies backed by Government guarantees.

So far, the Department of Industry, which is responsible for monitoring it, has approved lending by 17 financial institutions. A number of other applications have been received from institutions wishing to take part and an announcement will be made shortly when they have been evaluated.

But Mr MacGregor said that further applications from institutions would be halted in the light of the substantial interest.

The scheme's operation will be reviewed next March and the Industry Department's loan guarantee unit is keeping a close watch on its effectiveness and the volume of loans and guarantees made. Officials have been able to keep a check on the number of applications and the provision of loans, but not make an assessment of the number of jobs likely to be created, or likely to be created as a direct result.

Small firms advice body is reprieved

By Bill Johnston

The Government is to extend the life of its manufacturing advisory service for small businesses by another four years on a budget of £12m. The decision is a result of the £90m savings made through improved productivity of the 2,000 companies helped by the scheme since 1977.

The Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) is financed by the Department of Industry and operated by the Production Engineering Research Association (PERA).

Fifteen man-days of free consultancy advice is available to engineering manufacturing companies employing between 60 and 1,000. Since inception in 1977, £7.5m has been spent on various projects, including 1,700 studies by consultants in over 80 different areas of manufacture.

Advice on manufacturing techniques accounts for 23.7 per cent of the studies and manufacturing management a further 23.9 per cent.

The scheme had been originally intended to last five years. Announcing the extension yesterday, Mr John Wakeham, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, said the scheme had proved to be a relatively inexpensive method of talking to engineering manufacturing companies which badly needed to increase its competitiveness in world markets.

"Independent assessment of the service," Mr Wakeham said, "has shown that the ratio of costs to benefits is high and we firmly believe that the less quantifiable benefits are also considerable."

Japan under new pressure on EEC trade

By Our Industrial Editor

A second Japanese group has joined the Kaidanren federation of Japanese economic organizations in pressing the Tokyo Government to reconsider its import policy. The Economic Development Committee of Japan has called for self-control in exports and increased Japanese foreign aid and overseas investment to avoid trade frictions with importing countries.

The committee said that Japan should strive to improve its international political position by giving more thought to the world's political and security problems.

It stressed the need for Japan to take heed of the strong protests which had been made by EEC governments and business leaders to take urgent steps to avoid damage to the world economy as a result of mounting protectionism.

While noting that some of the European claims appeared to be based on misunderstandings of the nature of the Japanese market and investment practices, the report stated: "It is necessary for our country to listen with modesty to certain EEC claims and consider concrete steps to open our market more widely in order to promote an open trade system and to achieve balanced trade growth."

A delegation from the Kaidanren, which recently completed a 13-day tour of European capitals, has sent an interim report to Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister.

It asks the Government to consider lowering trade barriers and boosting imports of European goods to remove the threat of tougher import controls on Japanese exports to the EEC.

The report, which will be followed by a final and more detailed account and recommendations, says that, unless fresh steps are taken, Japan will risk the possibility of intensifying further trade protectionism in Europe and a possible collapse in free world trade.

It will please businessmen in Europe who have expressed their anxiety at the trend in Japanese exports to the Community and claimed that it was threatening thousands of jobs and destroying industries.

It has already drawn a warm welcome from Sir Raymond Penock, president of the Confederation of British Industry, who held discussions with the Kaidanren mission during its visit to London.

"The mission has reported back exactly what we said to its members and on the face of it it looks as though we have made an impact, but we shall go on pressing until something happens," he said.

The visit of the mission, which had the support of the Tokyo Government, took place as Japan's surplus on trade with the EEC continued to rise and this year is expected to surpass last year's figure of \$12,000m (£6,350m).

Yesterday, however, there were reports from Tokyo that the level of exports may have declined in July and August, although the imbalance between Japan and the United States has increased.

According to Japan's Economic Planning Agency, the imbalance on trade with the EEC has been declining since the middle of this year.

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UK urged to decide on research priorities

By Clive Cookson

Technology Correspondent
Britain would get better value out of the £2,400m it spends annually on research and development if funds were focused more narrowly on priority fields. That is the conclusion of a report published today by the National Economic Development Office.

The report pulls together the conclusions of 38 individual economic development councils and sector working parties which have investigated the research and development activities of industrial sectors from brewing to electronics.

The proportion of gross national product devoted to R & D is about the same in Britain as in the faster-growing countries of Western Europe and Japan — about 2 per cent.

But the NEDO report points out that Britain's R & D expenditure is more heavily concentrated on defence-related industries, especially aerospace and electronics, than that of other countries. "Although there should be considerable industrial spin-off from these activities, this is less than from comparable activities in other countries," the report says.

Many sector committees called on the Government to follow the European example of increasing government-funded research on specific new technologies, such as microelectronics, and on their transfer to industry.

But the NEDO report acknowledges that present economic conditions do not allow for a significant increase in Britain's total R & D expenditure. So it suggests several means by which existing funds could be used more effectively. These include:

● establishing R & D priorities for each industrial sector, taking account of world market opportunities and the availability of new technologies;

● creating a "growth package" of measures, including government and private R & D expenditure, public purchasing and other government policies, to support these priorities;

● developing collaborative research projects between companies or through "user clubs", working with a government laboratory or research association.

The report contrasts the uncoordinated United Kingdom approach — "let a thousand flowers bloom" — with the success of other countries in concentrating on specific technologies and market areas.

Industrial performance: R & D and innovation, NEDO Books, free.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	15 1/4%
Barclays	15 1/4%
BCCI	15 1/4%
Consolidated Crds	16 %
C. Hoare & Co	15 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	15 1/4%
Midland Bank	15 1/4%
Nat Westminster	15 1/4%
TSE	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 1/4%

* 7 day deposit on sum of £10,000-£50,000 14% over £50,000 14 1/4%

Gill & Duffus Group
International Commodity Merchants
Interim Statement

	1981 (estimated) £'000	1980 (actual) £'000	1979 (actual) £'000
Group Profit	20,000	23,061	20,555
Taxation	7,600	7,661	8,967
	12,400	15,400	11,588
Provision for deferred taxation no longer required	—	5,991	6,521
Profit after taxation	12,400	21,391	18,109

Dividend

The Board has declared an interim dividend of 3.6p per Ordinary Stock Unit (absorbing £2,369,000) payable on 15th December, 1981 to Stockholders on the register on 13th November, 1981. This dividend, together with the related tax credit, is equivalent to 5.1429p gross (1980 5.1429p).

If the above profit estimate is realised, the Board intends to recommend payment of a final dividend of not less than 4.8p, equivalent to 6.8571p gross, making a total for the year of 12.0p gross — the same as last year.

Mr T.P.H. Aitken, Chairman, comments:

I stated in May that 1981 was proving to be a difficult year and this has continued to be the case. Therefore, we have forecast a lower profit for the full year.

The drop in profit after taxation appears dramatic, but I would remind you of my previous references to the fact that this would happen because of the taxation changes relating to stock relief. I believe the true yardstick on which judgement should be made is the forecast profit after taxation of £12.4 million compared with the actual figure of £15.4 million last year and £11.6 million in 1979.

Reference was made to new ventures in the Report and Accounts issued in May. The volatility of interest rates has made it difficult for Gill & Duffus Securities to fulfil its initial promise. On the other hand, our investment in insurance broking through Clarkson Puckle is making excellent progress. G & D Energy is doing exactly what was expected of it and is pursuing exploitation, rather than exploration, which is the conservative approach that your Board decided to follow.

Our traditional commodities — cocoa, coffee and rubber — have once again been the mainstay of our operation and our relatively new business in chemicals is trading better than it was at this time a year ago and the results are encouraging. We have quietly continued to broaden our base and by the end of November your Company will have started substantially to increase its trade in sugar and will also begin to trade in grains. We continue to think in terms of strengthening our trading activities as this is the type of business that we know best. We are confident that our policy of steady development is the right one.

Gill & Duffus Group

St. Dunstan's House, 201 Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW.
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Welcome for gas break-up

The Chemical Industries Association yesterday welcomed the Government's decision to break the monopoly of British Gas.

Its approval was contained in a statement made by Mr Martin Trowbridge, the association's director general.

"We very much hope that his opportunity for private enterprise to become involved will make it worthwhile for companies to develop existing and new gas fields, which in turn should ensure adequate supplies are available when our industry shares in the economic upturn of the country," he said.

In February, the association met Mr David Howell, the former Secretary of State for Energy, and gave their reasons for requesting the change.

"One of our recommendations to the Government was that consideration be given to the possibility of a new and separate distribution system being set up to serve a limited number of concentrations of industry in the United Kingdom," Mr Trowbridge said.

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Business appointments

Advertising chief named



Sir Patrick Meaney

Stoddard group, Templeton Carpets and Templeton Spinning. Mr A. J. Lindsay, who was chief executive of Templeton Carpets when the company merged with Stoddard, will rejoin Guthrie International. Mr T. W. A. Wright has been appointed to the Templeton Carpets board.

Mr A. Kennison, group company secretary of Stoddard, has joined the board of Douglas Reyburn and Co. of Kilmarnock.

Mr M. R. Harris and Mr J. A. Cameron have been named non-executive directors of Westland Aircraft.

Mr Jeffrey Frost, executive director of the Committee on Visible Exports, has become an associate director of London & Continental Bankers.

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Mr S. T. Graham, director and group chief executive, Mr G. W. Taylor, director and deputy group chief executive, and Mr M. G. Wilcox, director, Midland Bank, have been elected to the board of Crocker National Corporation and its principal subsidiary, Crocker National Bank. This follows the completion of the first stage in Midland's investment in Crocker.

Mr David Burnett has been elected a director of Francis Industries. He was chairman of Automotive Operations Europe for the Chloride Group.

Mr R. C. Delaney and Mr G. Hardisty are to serve the board of Britannia.

Mr David Hume Piment is to be chairman of the Scottish Ceylon Tea Company and Mr C. S. Goldsmith becomes a director. Mr K. P. Legg and Mr J. S. Herbert have resigned from the board.

Mr Michael F. Garnett Keeler has been appointed managing director of GKN.

Mr Ian Scherphuis has joined the boards of Gresham Life Assurance Society and Amer Life Assurance.

Mr P. M. White, managing director of home furnishings division, has been made a director of Carrington Viyella. Mr J. L. Hewitt has been made finance and corporate development director. Mr C. J. Crowe has been made a non-executive director. Mr D. J. Budden, Mr A. C. Hayter and Mr M. W. Stone have become directors of Southernprint.

Mr Michael J. Hermann is now commercial director of the industrial division of the Phoenix Timber Company.

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M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

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The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div/yr	Vol	Actual	P/E Ratio
114 106		ABI Hldgs 10A CULS	110	—	10.0	9.1	—	—
76 39		Akrup Group	69	—	4.7	6.8	11.0	15.2
52 21		Armstrong & Rhodes	43	-1	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1
200 92A		Barton Hill	193	—	9.7	5.0	9.4	11.4
104 88		Deborah Services	97	—	5.5	5.7	4.8	9.1
126 88		Frank Horrell	116	+1	6.4	5.5	10.5	25.2
110 39		Frederick Parker	60	—	1.7	2.8	26.1	—
110 50		George Blair	50	—	—	—	—	—
102 93		IPC	96	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4
113 59		Jackson Group	97	+1	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130 103		James Burroughs	109	+1	8.7	8.0	8.0	10.0
334 244		Robert Jenkins	285	—	31.3	11.0	4.0	19.1
59 50		Scoutrons "A"	4	+1	5.3	9.8	8.3	7.7
224 187		Torday Limited	18	—	15.1	8.1	7.2	12.4
23 8		Twinklford Ord	1	+½	—	—	—	—
90 68		Twinklford 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—
56 34		Umilock Holdings	33	—	3.8	9.1	5.9	10.0
103 81		Walker Alexander	84	—	6.4	7.6	5.5	9.8
263 181		W. S. Yates	225	—	13.1	5.8	4.3	8.2

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Tuning in to C & W

There seems no reason why the flotation of half the shares of Cable & Wireless should not go well given a stable market background. The price of the shares has been pitched at 168p, a little lower than some people expected, and was the outcome of a compromise between the principal banks and stockbrokers as well as the company and the Treasury, who were all keen to ensure there are no hitches with the issue. On straightforward earnings of 14.3p a share the price earnings ratio is 11.7 times and on restated earnings of 12.6p is 13.3 after the change of ownership in Bahrain and Hongkong. A hypothetical gross dividend for the full current year of 9p a share produces a yield of 5.4 per cent.

That set of figures begs a fair number of questions. For instance, the profits record of C & W is not that inspiring whatever the forecast for the current year. For the four years to the end of March 1981 they remained on a plateau of around £60m. This year they are set to jump to £84m from 1980-81's £62m thanks to the strong growth in international telecommunications, estimated by C & W to be in the region of 25-30 per cent, the weakness of the pound, and the reduction in United Kingdom costs. Doubts can be cast on just how well that represents real growth by simply adding back last year's £10m redundancy costs and perhaps £7m for currency movements in the group's favour. C & W, however, argues that the £10m should be cut by £6m which represented the price they received from the sale of a Middle East asset.

Yet the statistics can make the potential investor in C & W lose sight of much more fundamental points about the company. For a start, to be in an international growth industry where an annual rate of over 25 per cent can be contemplated must be the main plus point. So, too, is the technology C & W is involved in. The present government intends to stand back from the company and allow it to get on with its business, although the position would be very different under a Labour government. And in the last few years as the prospect of going private became a reality, the management has clearly dusted itself down and will not allow trouble spots, be they in the Yemen or in the United States, to rest.

Although there is nothing it can be strictly compared with, C & W must be regarded as a quality stock at the end of the day. Unfortunately, the market's volatility of late could still mar the proceedings, but the shares can be safely bought on a long-term basis, and a big oversubscription is likely.

British Home Stores Food under pressure

Coincidence or no, good figures from Marks & Spencer often go with bad ones from British Home Stores (and the other way round). Yesterday BHS reported a 28 per cent fall to £7.63m before tax for the 24 weeks to mid-September, hard on Marks' checking in with a 25 per cent fall. Prices to customers rose 3 per cent, like £9m. Equally as interesting BHS shares rose 2p to 117p on perennial bid rumours, though they are well down on the year's peak of 184p, and still near the low of 110p.

In trading terms alone, the news from BHS is just about all bad. Total sales rose by only 4.6 per cent to £191.15m, and whereas the group maintained market share in non-foods, it lost it in foods. Prices to customers rose 3 per cent, and selling space by the odd percentage point. So total volume fell slightly. The result was that despite the near disappearance of interest payable thanks to last year's rights issue, pretax profits fell from £10.65m to £7.63m. Margins on sales narrowed from 6.4 per cent to 4.4 per cent which shows how sensitive retailers' margins are when volume gains grind to a halt while costs continue to rise.

The first month or so of the second half year has seen a recovery in sales, but there is no way of telling how well Christmas will turn out. Equally, there is

no way the group can now match last year's £39.2m before tax. However, something like £34m is possible. BHS is clearly not equalling Marks in food, but apart from this it has a product range with as many similarities to Woolworth as to Marks. It also has, thanks partly to a policy of retailing from leaseholds rather than freeholds, margins only half as wide as Marks'. The gearing to profits once retailing recovers is strong and the higher the pound goes against other currencies, the cheaper the lines BHS imports. But it would take a bid to justify the 5.5 per cent yield.

Gill & Duffus A shift in direction

Gill & Duffus' profits and plans are a direct response to an awkward but important year for commodity trading companies. Awkward because low trading activity and high interest rates have depressed profits, in Gill & Duffus' case from £23.1m pretax to an estimated £20m. Important because many traders are being forced to reconsider the shape of their business over the next few years. S & W Berisford has half-digested British Sugar and Gill & Duffus is planning a big expansion in international sugar and grain trading.

The company's core business of cocoa, coffee and rubber trading held up well in the circumstances, with rubber probably performing best. Gill & Duffus Securities is making money but has suffered from high interest rates. The 50 per cent stake in Clarkson Fuckle is worth perhaps £1m a year in profits and G & D Energy is building up cash flow.

But it is the ambitious grain and sugar trading operation, designed primarily to pull in dollar income, and developments away from the London markets by operating in Geneva and New York, that shareholders should look for an indication of the group's progress. A much higher turnover making better use of financial resources can be expected, with consequent effects on profits. The market was, therefore, premature in pushing the shares up to 197p, and after their 26p fall yesterday the prospective yield is 7 per cent if the full dividend is held at 12p gross. This could look cheap if Gill & Duffus' expansion succeeds.

Hawker Siddeley Moving off the plateau

Hawker Siddeley has surpassed itself to move out of its pattern of steady, but slow growth, with exceptional half-time profits in a year when the recession has sliced through many engineering companies. Pretax profits, up 7.7 per cent at £61.6m, are impressive.

Growth came from sales of its overseas subsidiaries climbing to £303m from £191m. The key here has been the quality of earnings from North American activities and particularly good profits from one of its recent buys, Fasco, and to a lesser extent from Australia and South Africa. Despite the £30m fall in United Kingdom sales to £396m the home market — usually 60 per cent of turnover — has managed to produce profits only slightly worse than last time.

A further bonus came with the £1.7m profits advance from associated companies to £6.8m, mainly from its 37 per cent stake in Onan in the United States. But Hawker's Canadian interests were disappointing with earnings down to \$24m against \$27m due to declining forestry and railway business.

But it is possible that Hawker can break out of its plateau to make £125m this year, helped by exchange rate translations. The 20p rise in the shares to 290p, boosted by the dividend increase to 5.25p gross, restores the shares some way back to its glamour rating. In more stable times this would have been cheap. Cash flow remains extremely healthy and further moves, either organic or by acquisition, into the North American market look on the cards.

Guinness Peat: why sparks may fly on November 5

Over the past few days there has been growing unrest among institutional shareholders of Guinness Peat, where the row between swashbuckling founder-president Lord Kissin and chairman Mr Edmund Dell has flared into uncontrolled conflict.

Unless the clash of management styles between the protagonists is quickly resolved, there could be breakdowns at Guinness Peat's annual meeting, due appropriately in the circumstances on November 5.

Since attitudes in the boardroom appear to have hardened, with the executive directors firmly supporting Mr Dell, the Secretary of State for Trade in the last Labour Government, and the non-executive directors, who enjoy sympathy with 66-year-old Lord Kissin, there is increasingly a feeling among City observers that only one of the two can survive if Guinness Peat is to thrive in a rapidly changing environment for financial services groups.

Who then is to be the fall guy, either before or after the November 5 meeting? One senior escapee from the hothouse of rumour and near-Borgist intrigue at Guinness Peat, believes that when the crunch comes Mr Dell will attract the support of the non-executive directors and then be able to oust Lord Kissin.

"When the chips are down, Kissin will have to go. He made the fundamental error of leaving the board when Dell arrived."

"Sir Jack Cohen did not make the same error when he left the chairmanship of Tesco. He stayed on with a power base in the boardroom."

Harry Kissin made two further mistakes. First, he brought in a senior civil servant to Guinness Peat (Sir Derek Mitchell, former Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, who stayed at the merchant bank for only 18 months). Then he went for a politician who lacks the leadership qualities to effect a transition between entrepreneurial and management styles of running a company like Guinness Peat.

Harry Kissin has enjoyed the battle which has been simmering since Dell's appointment. This former insider thinks, was Lord Kissin's last throw at becoming more respectable in the eyes of the City establishment. "Harry Kissin has enjoyed the battle which has been simmering since Dell's appointment. This former insider thinks, was Lord Kissin's last throw at becoming more respectable in the eyes of the City establishment."

Another City figure with experience of Lord Kissin's highly individual style of management says that the Danzig-born entrepreneur has never got to grips with the need to change Guinness Peat from a company in which 70 or 80 subsidiaries, ranging from insurance, banking and commodity trading to foods, are all run within one man's head, to a more decentralized operation, where managers are given real responsibility.

Lord Kissin is a man of remarkable tenacity and his *amour propre* is



Mr Edmund Dell and Lord Kissin: tug of war over Guinness Peat?

enormous," says one who worked closely with him.

"But Harry Kissin failed to foresee the consequence of appointing Edmund Dell as chairman. Intellectually, he wanted Edmund to run the group. Emotionally, he was against it. Edmund Dell is a thinking man, not a cut-throat or an entrepreneur, but I wonder just how relevant his commercial experience is to the running of Guinness Peat. He reminds me of Shirley Williams, who enjoys discussions, but does not like arriving at the conclusion resulting from them."

Clearly, there is a deep-seated clash of temperament and personality styles between Lord Kissin and Mr Dell. Even at first sight, it is difficult to see why Lord Kissin should pick Mr Dell as his successor, since the two men would appear to have little in common.

Edmund Dell is a former Oxford don and Manchester City councillor who spent 14 years in the organic division of ICI before entering the House of Commons in 1963 as member for Birkenhead. Interestingly, it was while the Labour Party was out of office between 1970 and 1974 that he was introduced to Lord Kissin by Sir Harold Wilson, who emulated the East European entrepreneur.

Mr Dell was on the board of Guinness Peat associate Linfood until the 1974 election. Linfood was part of

the group which was said to be of special interest to Lord Kissin, along with Esperanza, the shipping group, and the American commodity operation, Lewis and Peat (Chicago).

Now, it is precisely these areas which are reported to be at the bottom of the dissension between the two men.

Last month a 20 per cent stake in Linfood was sold for £12m to Mr Jimmy Gulliver's Argyle Foods, which then launched a £100m bid. And after the discovery of £4m losses at Lewis and Peat (Chicago) which trades in animal fats, steps were taken last summer to bring the operation under the control of the New York headquarters of Lewis and Peat Inc, where the new president is Mr Robert Kissin, Lord Kissin's son.

There is little doubt that the recent disposal of assets like the Linfood stake has drawn Lord Kissin out of the shadows and into strong opposition to Mr Dell's strategy for the whole group. This involves turning Guinness Peat away from commodity trading, where Lord Kissin established the original business in the thirties, into a broadly-based financial services group.

Only yesterday, Guinness Peat announced that it had paid \$8.5m for a 10 per cent interest in Telex, an American company which operates a data communications system for the financial community.

So, essentially, the battle is not just about the temperaments and management styles of two men. It is about where Guinness Peat should develop, after a year in which pre-tax profits slumped from £15.7m to £2.8m in the 12 months to April 30.

There is incessant rumour that an American insurance company will bid for Guinness Peat, a middle of the table Accepting House. The merchant bank has lost its deputy chairman, Mr David Ewart, and is searching for a new role to play.

Lord Kissin might be expected to take grave exception to the trend away from commodity trading, the business he built up and understands to his nerve ends. The battle-lines between the colourful East European, the founder of the group, and the thoughtful former Oxford don and Cabinet Minister, are fairly sharply defined.

But at the end of the day, there are those who know both the men and Guinness Peat well and who are now predicting that a majority of the board will stop the in-house feuding and intrigue, rally around Mr Dell and, for the sake of the company's future, ask the founder to depart with the minimum of fuss.

If this strategy fails, sparks could well fly out in the open on November 5.

Kevin Page

Economic notebook

More agonizing over the public purse

The Government cannot and will not cut public spending by the £500m which would be needed to get the total down to the figure the Treasury would like.

That is the one point of agreement among all the parties present Tuesday. Cabinet members. But beyond that, all is still to play for as the Government goes through one of its periodic crises of trying to get the economy back on course.

By the standards which it set itself, the public spending plans for 1982 and beyond, outlined in the White Paper published in the spring of this year, were already too high. Indeed, the Treasury managed to get the Cabinet to agree to a sentence saying as much and has been trying to get it to deliver ever since.

But general statements in the spring are one thing, actual cuts in the autumn are another. Extraordinary though some of the proposals seem, such as cutting the real value of social security bene-

fits, the first point to get clear about the row going on in the Cabinet is that public spending will go up next year instead of coming down. The Treasury is engaged in trying to limit the damage, not trying to gain new ground.

What is the damage likely to be from the Treasury's point of view and what will it do about it? No one can predict at present what will be announced in November. Even if they could, that would tell us little about what will happen next year.

At this time last year the Government was engaged in public spending cuts and left the Treasury to deal with the worked out in the period just after Christmas. By the time the Budget came along it was discovered that the cuts of about £1,000m which were supposed to be worked out were just not going to happen.

We can be reasonably sure this year that we shall see a repeat performance. Whatever

the Chancellor gets up to announce in late November, as the figure for public spending agreed for 1982-3, has only a limited chance of surviving until next April. The pressures for further cuts will grow and the difficulties in actually achieving the desired cuts will become more obvious.

What happens if the Government's spending next year is above target? That in itself is not disastrous. Most economists have predicted for a long time that spending next year would be higher than the Chancellor would like and have based their forecasts on this assumption. That is no reason to think that he should or he will raise taxes.

The case for saying that he should not raise taxes is very clear. The economy is still weak and is expected to show very little growth next year. Unemployment is likely to rise until well into 1982 and an increase in any kind of taxes would depress demand still further.

The only purpose of a tax increase would be to bring government borrowing down to a figure which the Chancellor thought acceptable, such as the estimate set out in the medium term financial strategy drawn up in early 1980.

That would be a very bad borrowing target of the worst kind. But just because he ought not to increase taxes does not mean that the Chancellor will not do so. After all, he ought not to have increased taxes in the spring Budget, but he did so, as his revenge on those who had frustrated his plans to cut spending. There are, however, reasons to believe that he will find it harder to get away with it again — and he may be under less pressure to do so.

The problems first: the Chancellor cannot this year repeat what he has done in the past, inventing a new tax to raise revenue from sources such as the banks or the oil companies. Any tax increases will this time round have to be firmly in the mainstream of taxation, either raising income tax or increasing the burden of taxation on companies.

Income tax increases would be very unpopular politically. They would certainly have to take the form of an increase in the standard rate, rather than cheating on the indexation of personal allowances.

It is, of course, a matter of judgment whether his Cabinet colleagues would allow the Chancellor to increase income tax in this way. The Budget is still five months or so away and it would be deeply damaging to the Government's strategy to have to raise taxes this autumn.

But if income taxes are difficult, extra taxes on the corporate sector are virtually impossible. Unemployment is high enough already without forcing companies to lay more people off.

All of the pressure within the Cabinet is to cut taxes on companies, such as the National Insurance surcharge.

It is, in any case, far too early for the Chancellor to know what the financial outlook for the next financial year will be. The Treasury forecast for the likely borrowing requirement in 1981 went up by leaps and bounds in the early months of this year. It would be quite inconsistent with the techniques which the Chancellor has adopted to make firm decisions for next year this far in advance.

What the Treasury ministers really mean when they talk of higher taxes is taxes higher than they otherwise would have been. What means in absolute levels is something that we will not know for many months to come. But it does seem likely that higher public spending will lead to higher public borrowing, because it will not be fully matched by extra tax revenue.

In fact, even if the original strategy had been right, it was absurd to make it depend upon, for example, a big improvement in the finances of the nationalized industries in the middle of a deep recession. The Chancellor ought to make it clear with us in late November and say that many parts of that strategy have had to be adapted. If he does, he will earn far better marks for being pragmatic than he can hope to get by simply fudging the figures.

David Blake

Business Diary: Thanks a million, ICFC

It is well-known that everyone loves a lord, but one might be forgiven for thinking that there is an element of giving to those who already have in the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation's latest venture.

ICFC is Britain's biggest source of long-term capital for small businesses — and it is lending a handy £1m to the Duke of Devonshire's family trust, the Chatsworth Settlement.

The Marquess of Hartington, the duke's son, says that the loan amounts to "very nearly the total investment" in renovating and extending the Devonshire Arms hotel on the settlement's estate at Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire. The building is to be completely refurbished — and another 38 rooms added.

The Marquess says that the venture could never have been undertaken without borrowing the money.

The Marquess is not the only family member much involved in the project. His mother, the duchess, is often to be seen on the site in a building contractor's hard hat, as she is in charge of design and decoration.

"It is a great relief to myself and my father to have her in charge of that aspect," the Marquess says, "because, of course, she is not getting paid for it."

"She has had considerable experience — first redecorating Chatsworth in 1959 and then in modernizing the Cavendish Hotel at Baslow, which is also on our estate."

Chefs' special

Sandy Lesberg, an American food critic and publisher, started organizing meetings of chefs to promote his company's cook books. Now, he says, he is up to his ears in chefs and the books seem almost incidental.

Lesberg finds himself director of a burgeoning international institute of master chefs, which already has 300 members in France and 200 in the United States. The organization is sponsored by Citicorp, owners of Diners' Club and Carte Blanche, and the British chapter is to be launched on Monday.

The steering committee, which the 68 British members have enthusiastically formed, includes Michel Roux, Anton Mossman of the Dorchester, Sonia Stevenson of the Horn of Plenty, Gulworthy, and Richard Shepherd of Langham's Brasserie.

It is to such illustrious porters that individual members of the public who join the institute will soon be able to apply for help in their saucier or their soufflé classes.

Lesberg, who started the whole thing by throwing parties for chefs when he had some European cooks on a book promotion tour in America, says that the institute is filling a void in enabling "great artists" to communicate with each other and the public. It is also producing a series of Master Chefs' recipe books.

Wallchart

OUR FINANCIAL CONTROLLER SEEMS TO THINK...

...THAT IF OUR LIST OF OVERDUE ACCOUNTS CONTINUES TO GROW AT THE PRESENT RATE...

...WE MAY SOON BE ABLE TO REGISTER AS A CHARITY...

Money balks?

William Davis' umpteenth book on cash, *Money in the 1980s: How to Make It, How to Keep It*, begins: "It could be argued — and I propose to do so — that the quickest way to a fortune is to marry one."

Davis does not, however, practice what he preaches, for although he admits to having made a bob or two himself, it wasn't by marrying. The second chapter of the book begins: "I married a French woman (Sylvette), who has saved up a mere £1,500, and I am still married to her fourteen years later."

The one thing the book does not tell you, nor will Davis himself, is how much he has made or kept. "I'm rich by anybody's standards," he told me yesterday. "But it's all tied up in assets. I have no idea what it's all worth."

The book warns people about the dangers of over-optimistic investment in property, but says nonetheless: "Most of my own money is in property."

some of his own advice, as well as to sell it in book form. One admission in the book is: "Don't be a one-product firm." His own firm publishes the magazine *High Life and Executive World* for British Airways, and the word is that he is about to launch a joint company with Michael Barran, which will add video to the portfolio.

—Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95.

Raspberry aid

Could British Airways be nearer to running its own terminal at Heathrow? The suggestion has received a raspberry in the past from the British Airports Authority, operator of the four terminals at Heathrow as well as of the airport itself.

On the other hand, the authority is profitable and British Airways is hugely in debt. Sir John King, BA's new chairman, is thought to be attracted to the idea, and has very much a political appointment. It might be that if cost pressures on the

airline continue he could make the point over the BAA's head.

Gerry Draper, BA's commercial director, is already to be heard making the point that it is ludicrous for the state airline to be expected to operate as a commercial carrier when its two biggest suppliers, the BAA (airports) and the Civil Aviation Authority (routes) are monopolies.

At least one of BA's non-executive directors is keen on the idea — Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Sterling Guaranty Trust and Town & City Properties.

BA — have their own air terminals at John F. Kennedy, New York. Among other things, it means that the airlines can operate the security checks and baggage belts. Delays caused by these two services, provided at Heathrow by the BAA, tend to be blamed on the airlines rather than on the airport authority.

Lastly, there is a lot of money to be made from the duty-free shops, as KLM does at Schiphol.

Clubability

What chance the Social Democrats copying up to the Liberals in the National Club as they do on the hustings?

Fair to good, says Lawrence Robson, the chairman of the club's operating company, National Liberal Club Limited. (The chairman of the club itself is party treasurer Leonard Smith.)

Robson said yesterday: "I've made no direct approach to the SDP, but we hope that as the alliance continues the club will be used for meetings and conferences and that they will join the club like any other Liberals."

Or any other non-Liberals, he might have said, as the club has two classes of membership — political and non-political.

The Liberal Party has headquarters at the club. The SDP already has offices in Westminster.

Any SDP link with the Liberal Club is likely to be low-key. With the exception of Roy Jenkins, they are not a very clubbable bunch. Most of their important meetings have taken place in Big Four's houses.

James Macgowan, one of the *Forx Truck Partnership*, went into a top shop to buy a £2.50 model *forx lift truck* for his collection, only to be told that he would have to wait six weeks for it. "I can supply the real thing at £6,000 in less than a week", he comments.

Ross Davies

FINAL REDEMPTION ASSENTED BONDS URUGUAY 3½ PER CENT CONSOLIDATED LOAN 1891

Notice is hereby given that Williams & Glyn's Bank Limited will be prepared to pay at par all outstanding Assented Bonds of the above loan together with the interest payment due 1.11.81 at which date interest will cease.

This offer will remain open for a period of 4 years from 1.11.81 terminating 1.11.85.

Interest will continue to be paid on Unassented Bonds. Assented Bonds with coupon 359 due 1.11.81 and subsequent attached should be presented for payment at the offices of Williams & Glyn's Bank Limited, 5-10 Great Tower Street, London E.C.3. and left three clear days for examination.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Cable & Wireless sale curbs trade

Business ground to a halt in the market yesterday after the Government released its plans for the sale of Cable & Wireless, which is expected to raise more than £220m.

Details of the sale were greeted in the market with relief as dealers concluded that the drain on cash resources, originally feared, but it was enough to curb business for the rest of the day and dealers were left to kick their heels.

Nevertheless, most agreed that the market tone was looking decidedly firmer and a small rally, despite the present uncertain economic outlook, was a possibility.

Sentiment was helped by better than expected six monthly figures from Hawker Siddeley, which increased the share price 20p to 290p in the wake of last week's 38p fall. Hopes are now high that ICI's third-quarter profits, due next week, may prove promising with expectations of £70m to £75m against a loss of £60m last time. The share held steady yesterday at 258p.

Business after hours was helped by a firm stand on Wall Street where market pundit Mr Joe Granville talked in terms of a 100-point rally within two weeks or so.

As a result the FT index closed at its high for the day, 3,241 up at 476.5.

Gilt spent a lacklustre day, upset by reports of a split over cash policies. Falls of about 1p were reported in longer, while at the shorter end the losses stretched to 1.5p.

Blue chips were mostly unchanged although Glaxo managed a further 7p rise to 598p on the back of recent comment about prospects for its new ulcer drug, Zantac, while BOC International edged up 1p to 137p.

The half-year report from British Home Stores proved disappointing, with the price shedding 1p to 114p. Mothercare, which reported earlier in the week lost another 4p to 140p, while Marks & Spencer, the first remaining major to report this week, held steady at 111p. Boots eased 2p to 192p and Great Universal Stores halted its recent slide closing unchanged at 373p. Only Debenhams bucked the trend, adding 1p at 73p after announcing the sale of its Swan & Edgar store.

Overseas trader Gill & Duffus relapsed 26p to 171p after half-yearly figures, and a forecast of a large fall for the full year. First-half losses wiped 3p from Jessel Toynebe at 62p while disappointing news was responsible for a 5p retreat in Smith St Aubyn at 133p.

But better than expected trading news added 1p to Franks Industries at 78p, 1p to London Retail at 66p, 2p to Telephone Rentals at 290p, 5p to Eleco Holdings at 65p, and 3p to Kalamazoo at 41p, while RTD celebrated a return to the black with a 7p rise to 18p. Meanwhile, news of a £468,000

rights issue with the first-half profits clipped 2p from DM Lancaster at 18p.

Still reflecting recent figures, FJC Lilly rose 6p to 149p, while among leisure shares Saga Holidays was 7p dearer at 383p along with Fleasurama up 10p at 263p.

Details of its United States expansion added 2p to the much troubled Guinness Peat at 88p with Davey Corporation rising 8p to 164p on news of its £330m Mexican deal.

Speculative attention sent Hill Samuel up 2p to 145p, British Arrow 15p to 51p and Rendel 3p to 35p. Electricals displayed a mixed appearance with GEC up 3p to 62p and Standard Telephone 15p higher at 404p—the latter reflecting the Cable & Wireless offer for sale.

But small falls were seen in Thorn EMI, down 3p to 320p, and Plessey, 3p lower at 300p. Television companies continued to make ground on the advertising boom, Granada rose 4p to 200p followed by HTV 'A' 2p to 94p and Scottish TV 'A' 2p to 83p.

Oils remained a firm market,

still reflecting hopes of a price agreement among Opec ministers when they meet in Geneva. But expiry day in the traded options market saw BP and Shell in strong demand as dealers raced to cover their positions. BP advanced 4p to 304p and Shell 8p to 358p. Elsewhere, Ulfarum hardened 3p to 483p, Lassmo 2p to 248p and Tricentral 2p to 248p, while in second liners Berkeley Exploration expanded 8p to 303p. Profit taking, however, lopped 15p from Atlantic Resources at 250p.

Equity turnover on October 20 was £35,971m (9,685 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Gill & Duffus, Hawker Siddeley, Cons Gold Fields, British Home Stores, RTZ and Rascal.

Traded options: Expiry of the October series saw total contracts reach 3,177, of which BP accounted for 1,095 calls and 138 puts.

Traditional options saw calls in FNPEC on 4p, Toveri Kemsley on 7p, Fitch Lovell on 7p while doubles were arranged in Grand Met on 22p.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
City of London	191.1(182.7)	7.63(10.65)	2.6(3.6)	1.75(1.75)	4/1	(4.5)
Eleco Holdings (F)	18.17(17.778)	1.66(1.7)	2.85(2.8)	2.4(2.3)	4/12	5.4(3.138)
Francis Inds (F)	14.67(15.84)	0.85(0.82)	3.8(10.4)	2.0(1.75)	4/1	(—)
London Retail	290.2(291.1)	20.0(23.1)	3.6(3.5)	3.6(3.5)	15/12	12.0(12.0)
Hawker Siddeley (F)	699(717)	1.1(1.2)	19.0(17.1)	1.6(1.5)	31/12	2.5(3.75)
Kalamazoo (F)	32.39(30.77)	1.33(1.23)	(—)	1.75(1.73)	30/12	(—)
DM Lancaster (F)	1.66(—)	0.15(—)	(—)	1.75(1.73)	30/12	(—)
London Retail	290.2(291.1)	20.0(23.1)	3.6(3.5)	3.6(3.5)	15/12	12.0(12.0)
Municipal Prop (F)	0.15(0.14)	0.06(0.07)	(—)	4.5(—)	2/12	(8.25)
Newey Group (F)	6.9(7.6)	0.18(0.06*)	(—)	4.5(—)	2/12	(8.25)
Smith St Aubyn (F)	12.6(11.8)	0.18(0.06*)	(—)	4.5(—)	2/12	(8.25)
Telecoms (F)	25.2(24.2)	9.2(10.72)	(—)	4.5(—)	2/12	(8.25)
Unit Holdings (F)	12.6(11.8)	0.18(0.06*)	(—)	4.5(—)	2/12	(8.25)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * = Loss. — = Estimate. — = Adjusted for rights issue.

Recession catches Kalamazoo

By Peter Walwright

Kalamazoo, the business systems and services group, did better in the second half of its year to July 31 than in the same months the year before. But the group points out that business was slack 12 months earlier.

Kalamazoo has adopted full current cost accounting, and on this basis, pretax profits fell from £29.3m to £18.3m for the full year. In the second six months the group made £1.5m before tax against £1.33m, after the first half slump from £1.5m to £301,000.

Sales for the year rose by 5 per cent to £32.4m with those in the second half

advancing from £16m to £16.7m. The 37 per cent fall in total profit is blamed straightforwardly on recession, and the group now reports: "There is no sign of an improvement in the business climate." Sales in the traditional systems remain flat, but the motor trade, public authority and overseas interests all did better, while K 3 Software Services had promising gains.

Kalamazoo invested more than £1.5m on new developments in 1980-81, accelerating the shift in emphasis towards systems based on computer technology. It also prides itself

on aggressive selling of British lines which competes with imported micro computers. The final dividend is cut in line with the interim payment, so the gross total declines from 5.36p a share to 3.57p. This involves a payment from reserves, but the directors explain that they have been strengthened by the adoption of current cost accounting which counters inflation.

The current-cost pretax profit of £1.33m was struck before deducting the Kalamazoo Workers' Alliance bonus. This year the workers have to make do with only £506,000 against £593,000.

Eleco dips but raises dividend

By Catherine Gunn

Eleco Holdings, the lighting, construction, and property group, made pretax profits of £1.7m, slightly down from £1.7m, in the year to June 30. A significant fall in demand in the second half led to a stable cost-cutting and redundancy programme, which Mr Frank Webster, the chairman, hopes will enable the group to hold profits up now. Property rental income should rise by the end of this year with good demand for space at the three main industrial sites.

The final dividend has been increased by 1p net to give 3.43p gross for the year, an overall rise of 8.6 per cent after tax for the May 1980 rights issue.

The group still has £3m cash on deposit for the continuing expansion of its property side. It is looking for property-related acquisitions. There is no net debt.

Some 200 jobs were shed in the second half. Compensation for jobs lost when the St Albans street lighting and sign factory was shut are included in the £39,000 closure cost shown as an extraordinary item. Group sales slipped 8 per cent to £18.2m.

Telephone Rentals to take on Telecom

By Our Financial Staff

Sir Charles Ball, deputy chairman of Telephone Rentals, who is acknowledged as a master of the takeover bid, has been drawing up plans for the group to break into the state monopoly operated by British Telecom.

His strategy will be operated directly by the Government relax the monopoly in the provision and maintenance of telephone and exchange apparatus.

Mr Robert Sly, the group's managing director, said yesterday: "We are not putting all our eggs in one basket. But Sir Charles has been drawing up a strategy for us, although we still don't know when the monopoly relaxation will come."

Telephone Rentals, headed by Mr Eric Cooper, chairman of Telephone Rentals, produced

half-yearly results yesterday which showed pretax profits up by just over 7 per cent at £5.7m for the six months to the end of June. Sales climbed by £1m to £22.5m with the bulk of the increase coming from its rental side. Its other sales dropped.

The shares climbed 12p to 290p. In June when electricals

were the stock market favourites, they changed hands at £4 each. Rentals has doubled the half-time dividend to a gross 5.71p but says that although it expects the overall profit this year to top 1980's £12.4m pretax, the increase should not be taken as a guide to the full-year payout.

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Law Report October 22 1981 Queen's Bench Division

Application of guidelines for arbitration appeals

BVS SA, and Another v Kerman Shipping Co SA
Before Mr Justice Parker
[Judgment delivered October 16]

In exercising his discretion to refuse leave to appeal against a commercial arbitrator's award on an application made under section 1 of the Arbitration Act 1979, Mr Justice Parker considered the proper application of the guidelines laid down by the House of Lords in *Pioneer Shipping Ltd v BTP Tioxide Ltd (The Nema)* (The Times, July 17, 1981) 3 WLR 292.

His Lordship dismissed an application by BVS SA and the Kerman Shipping Co SA for leave to appeal against a reasoned arbitrator's award made on February 2, 1981 by Mr Anthony Hallgarten, QC, in favour of the respondent, Kerman Shipping Co SA in a dispute concerning a clause in a bill of lading.

Mr Kenneth Robinson, QC, and Mr Andrew Lawrence, QC, were the applicants; Mr Richard Aikens for the respondents.

MR JUSTICE PARKER, delivering a reserved judgment in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench, said that in *The Nema* the House of Lords, through agents, shipped goods on board the respondent's vessel for the carriage to Iran to the order of the respondent's bank. Clause 11 of the bill of lading provided: "The shipper expressly authorizes the carrier to load the goods on deck, stowage, lashing, securing and unlashment, and to secure and lash the goods as written authorization and to use any equipment or material in connection with the loading, stowage, lashing, securing and unlashment of the goods."

The shipper's goods were washed overboard during the course of the voyage. The respondents had not insured against the risk. The arbitrator found that the respondents were in breach of clause 11 in failing to insure and that the meaning ascribed to the clause by the arbitrator was obviously wrong.

"But if on such a case it appears to me that it is possible that the arbitrator might be persuaded, despite first impression to the contrary, that the arbitrator might be right, he should not grant leave; the parties should be left to accept, for better or for worse, the decision of the arbitrator. It is only if the arbitrator's decision is obviously wrong, that the arbitrator's decision should be set aside."

The arbitrator rejected the claim holding, inter alia, that the respondents were not in breach of clause 11 and that, even if they were, the respondents were entitled to nominal damages only.

The applicants sought leave to appeal under section 1 of the Arbitration Act 1979 contending by way of one of the grounds that the arbitrator had erred in law in holding that on the facts found and on the construction of clause 11 the respondents were not obliged to insure the deck cargo.

Since the determination of that question could substantially affect the result of the arbitration, the arbitrator had erred in law in holding that on the facts found and on the construction of clause 11 the respondents were not obliged to insure the deck cargo.

It is not necessary to consider the question of whether the arbitrator's decision was obviously wrong, but it is clear that it was not.

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First, the mere fact that the parties sought to obtain a quick decision by arbitration in order to determine their future conduct, as opposed to seeking relief in respect of events long past, would not of itself result in leave being refused: see *The Nema* (1981) 3 WLR 292, at pp. 296H to 297B.

Second, if the circumstances were such that the dispute concerned the construction of a "one-off" contract relating to a particular trade and the parties had selected an arbitrator for his experience and knowledge of the commercial background and circumstances of that trade, that would constitute a relevant factor to be put in the balance of circumstances on the side of the refusal of leave.

Third, the criteria to be applied in exercising the discretion whether or not to grant leave were intended to be much stricter than those used in exercising the discretion to state a special case. Such criteria were merely that (1) there should be a real and substantial point of law or equity for decision by a court; (2) that the point of law should be clear cut and capable of being stated as a point of law; and (3) that the determination of the point of law should be necessary for the proper determination of the case: see *Halfdan Greg & Co v A/S Seifert Co & Navigation Corporation (The Lysander)* (1973) QB 343, 350-3, 352.

If, therefore, on an application for leave, nothing more was shown than those three matters, it followed that the application should normally be refused.

The guidelines were to be found in *The Nema</*

Athletics

Football: Britain maintains its grip on all European tournaments even if Southampton let the side down by loosening theirs

Liverpool's generosity keeps the new Dutch masters alive

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Alkmaar, Oct 21

Liverpool 2 Aston Villa 2
The National Stadium seems to have become a vast arena for the Dutch. Last month, Tottenham Hotspur came here and destroyed Ajax, the former giants, in the Cup Winners' Cup. Last night, it was the turn of Liverpool to do the Dutch. Last month, Tottenham Hotspur came here and destroyed Ajax, the former giants, in the Cup Winners' Cup. Last night, it was the turn of Liverpool to do the Dutch.

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Morley completes Villa graduation ceremony

From Norman Fox
East Berlin, Oct 21

Dynamo Berlin 1 Aston Villa 2
Aston Villa graduated in European football style by beating East Berlin Dynamo in the second round of the Cup Winners' Cup. The match was a tactical battle, with Villa's attacking play being countered by Dynamo's solid defence.

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Rugby Union

Oxford ring down curtain with honour

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent
Oxford University 12

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Speed of Cambridge leaves Bedford well behind

By Gordon Allen

Bedford 13 Cambridge Univ 28
Cambridge University beat Bedford by four goals and a try in the Cambridge 22 Cup. The match was a tactical battle, with Cambridge's attacking play being countered by Bedford's solid defence.

Crooks goal takes the pressure off Tottenham

From a Special Correspondent
Dundalk, Oct 21

Tottenham Hotspur 1 Dundalk 1
Tottenham Hotspur took a night to achieve what a host of other top clubs, including Glasgow Celtic, could not manage at Old Trafford in the past seven seasons of European football: the defeat of Dundalk on their own ground.

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A mountain to climb in Lisbon

By John Nicholas
Southampton 2 Sporting Lisbon 4

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Southampton's hopes of making their presence felt in Europe after a long absence were dashed when they were beaten 4-2 by Sporting Lisbon in the second round of the Cup Winners' Cup.

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Aberdeen happy to carry on where they left off

Aberdeen, who beat the holders Ipswich Town in the previous round, wasted no time in 'reclaiming' their title in the UEFA Cup. The match was a tactical battle, with Aberdeen's attacking play being countered by Ipswich's solid defence.

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Boro defence unwavering until Moses points way

By Tom Gorman
Manchester U 1

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Manchester United held out until the 82nd minute before Moses broke a resolute Boro defence. The match was a tactical battle, with Manchester United's attacking play being countered by Boro's solid defence.

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Maradona out of team after missing training

Buenos Aires, Oct 21—Diego Maradona has been left out of Argentina's team for the next two international matches after refusing to turn up for training.

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Badminton

Bradford 1 England 3

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Bradford beat England 3-1 in the badminton match. The match was a tactical battle, with Bradford's attacking play being countered by England's solid defence.

Kent in play-off

Kent suffered their first defeat in the Kent County championship.

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Fernandes scores No 3 to give Southampton less than a sporting chance in Lisbon.

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Yesterday's results

European Cup, first leg

Aston Villa 2 Liverpool 2

Dynamo Berlin 1 Aston Villa 2

CSKA Sofia 2 Chelsea 0

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CSKA Sofia 2 Chelsea 0

Dynamo Berlin 1 Aston Villa 2

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Dynamo Berlin 1 Aston Villa 2

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Representative Match: Southampton 1 Aston Villa 2

Rugby Union

Aston Villa 2 Liverpool 2

Dynamo Berlin 1 Aston Villa 2

CSKA Sofia 2 Chelsea 0

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buty pension scheme and annual bonus. For further details please ring Anne on 242 1577

La creme de la creme also on page 25

P.A. to Chairman c. £6,500 Hanger Lane

AGB Information Systems Ltd has been set up to assume control and co-ordination of the AGB Research Group's computer activities based in superb offices at Hanger Lane.

The new Chairman wishes to appoint an experienced P.A. to assist him in his work. You will be involved in the full range of secretarial duties including confidential correspondence and liaison with other sectors of the company both at home and abroad.

You will probably be in the age range 25-35 years and have several years' executive secretarial experience. A first-class organiser and administrator you have excellent shorthand, typing and audio skills as well as a flair for dealing with people at senior level and a flexible approach to your work.

We offer excellent conditions of employment which will include a subsidised restaurant, pension scheme and 4 weeks' holiday. Please telephone Ros Field on 01-888 4422 or write to her with career details to: AGB Research Ltd, Audit House, Field End Road, Eastcote, Ruislip, Middx.

AGB

SECRETARY FOR MARKETING EXECUTIVES BILINGUAL—FRENCH

I.D.V. are an international organization of wine and spirits specialists, marketing many famous brands. We are looking for an experienced bilingual Secretary (French) preferably with a marketing background, to provide a secretarial service for 2 of our senior marketing executives. This is a new position and the successful candidate will be able to function with enthusiasm and confidence, particularly during the frequent absence abroad of the 2 executives. The day to day contact with production and shipping departments, our customers and other agencies, will be a pleasure to you. There is plenty of scope to use organizational skills.

SECRETARY— GROUP MARKETING

Our Group Marketing Department requires an experienced Secretary with sound shorthand typing (100/60). The work of the Department is varied and relates to New Product Development, Sales Promotion, and Marketing Communications. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the department and will be in close contact with the Marketing Director and other senior executives.

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Our International Firm of Chartered Accountants is looking for someone, who in addition to secretarial and confidential administrative work, for a senior partner, will act as a supervisor for the group secretaries.

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Applications in writing should be sent to:
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20 Manchester Square, London W1A 1ES
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Learning by remote control

At any one time there are an estimated 350,000 students enrolled in correspondence courses studying anything from history to ice-cream technology. Precise statistics are hard to come by because students can enrol at any time, drop out without attracting immediate attention or take 10 years over a course.

The National Extension College in Cambridge, which is run by a trust, estimates a potential market of six million people prepared to buy one of the hundreds of courses on offer.

The best-known correspondence college is the Open University offering its own degrees and post-graduate studies. Students, who do not need academic qualifications, use written texts in conjunction with radio and television programmes for their studies. Apart from the Open University, however, correspondence education is provided mainly by the private sector.

The level of commercialism varies from non-profit-making, trust organisations to highly profit-oriented colleges.

The larger colleges offer courses leading to GCEs, degrees, post-graduate qualifications and examinations set by professional commercial and technical bodies.

Among the professional courses are those leading to examinations set by the Civil Service Commission, the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Institute of Taxation and the Law Society.

The National and Local Government Officers' Association has its own correspondence college, open to certain categories of non-members, whose aim is to promote career advancement in national and local government. Students can study for qualifications offered by the Institute of Health Service Administrators, the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators and the Business Education Council.

There are also several specialist correspondence colleges offering courses in career subjects including salesmanship and journalism. Some offer their own qualifications and students who wish to pursue a career must first discover what status, if any, their proposed course enjoys among employers.

The teaching methods depend mainly on written work, submitted and corrected by post. Cassettes are sometimes used, particularly in modern language teaching, and students occasionally have the chance to attend lectures or tutorials. The National Extension College runs a system called Flexi-Study by which correspondence students are offered counselling, tutorials and other back-up facilities at local colleges.

The National Extension College estimates that one "O" level course will cost about £50, including textbooks, but fees as well as standards can vary greatly.

Some local authorities will consider correspondence course students for discretionary grants although the pressure on local government finances means that there is increasingly less money available for such fringe activities. Most authorities prefer to concentrate what little resources they have for adult education on their own courses. The Inner London Education Authority makes no awards to correspondence students while Essex is one of the most generous.

Essex County Council assesses students on a means test and receives around 15 applications a year. A student can get the whole of his tuition and examination fees paid. The National Extension College has a small bursary fund, one per cent of which the average grant is £30. The typical

recipient, according to the college, is a housebound single mother living on supplementary benefit and struggling to get an "O" level to improve her job prospects.

In the main, however, students expect to finance themselves and, although the current recession means that more people have the time and the need for education, it also means that fewer have the money to buy it.

The main advantage of correspondence education is the flexibility it offers. Unlike the Open University, students can choose how many hours they wish to study each week and take as long as they like over their courses. Critics say that the undoubtedly high level of motivation and discipline needed means that the drop-out rate is probably more than 50 per cent.

The colleges tend to be coy about just how many drop out but the National Extension College warns in its literature that many students never complete their courses.

Some 30 colleges are accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Correspondence Colleges which inspects establishments every five years. The council received a grant from the Department of Education and Science but is largely backed by the colleges themselves. An EEC plan to take over the council was shelved recently, to the disappointment of some educationists who would like to see a system in which the colleges were less involved.

For further information write to: Council for the Accreditation of Correspondence Colleges, 27, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JS. Association of British Correspondence Colleges, 6 Francis Grove, London, SW19 4DT.

Sandra Hempel

ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP—ENGLISH

The College proposes to elect a Fellow in English (1400-1600: Romanticism and Modern Poetry) with effect from 1 October, 1982. The Fellowship is tenable in conjunction with a University Lectureship (1987) which however will not be available until 1 October, 1984.

Further information may be obtained from the Principal, St Anne's College, Oxford, OX2 6BS to whom applications with a curriculum vitae and the names of referees, should be sent to reach her not later than 12 November, 1981.

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Recruitment Opportunities

The Police Graduate Entry Scheme.

During this term, Police Graduate Liaison Officers will be visiting all universities, polytechnics and most colleges in the country to talk to undergraduates about a career in the Police, and the special entry scheme for graduates.

This scheme is for applicants who are considered to have the potential for accelerated promotion to the rank of Inspector and beyond, early in their career.

WHO CAN APPLY? You may apply if you are a Graduate, or in the final year of any full-time degree course. You must be under thirty and meet the physical requirements. Any University or CNA degree is acceptable.

Furthermore if you are still studying, we'll let you know if you've been accepted under the scheme before you start your last term.

HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES? The Police have a growing need for highly qualified men and women who are able to cope with the increasing intellectual challenges of Police work.

Your ability and potential will be used to the full in combating the increasingly complex problems which today's society poses for the Police. You will find the work demanding, satisfying and a real challenge, but have you got what it takes?

SPEND A FEW DAYS WITH US AND FIND OUT. We're inviting final year undergraduates to spend a few days with us on a Familiarisation Course from 4th to 7th January 1982. We shan't hide anything. You will accompany Police Officers on their normal work.

That way you'll really find out what the job is about, both in its pleasant and less pleasant aspects.

WHAT ABOUT SALARY? If you're 22 or over when you join, you'll earn at least £6,699 (£8,298 if in London). On top of which there's free accommodation or a rent allowance - maximum £1,007 to £2,271 a year, depending on the area you work in.

INTERESTED? If you think you might be interested in a Police career, please contact your careers adviser now or clip the coupon below. But don't hesitate too long, the closing date for the Familiarisation Course is 4th December, and the closing date for the Graduate Entry Scheme is 29th January 1982.

To Supt. John M. Adams RA, Room 556, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

Please send me your booklet and application form for:

The Police Graduate Entry Scheme ☐ The Familiarisation Course ☐

Name Age

Address

University/Polytechnic/College

My Degree Course Ends DT/GI

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Administrators

The Commission of the European Communities is organising a series of competitions based on qualifications and tests to recruit Administrators to carry out administrative, advisory and supervisory duties in these areas:

ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS, LAW, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC FINANCE, EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PRESS AND INFORMATION, CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AND COMMON CUSTOMS TARIFF, AGRICULTURE.

Candidates, male or female, must:

- have been born after 1 October 1948
- have obtained a university degree
- have at least 2 years subsequent experience in one of the above areas
- have a thorough knowledge of one Community language and a satisfactory knowledge of a second Community language
- be a national of one of the Member states

The obligatory application form (please quote ref Com/A/513-349) can be obtained from:

Information Office of the European Communities
20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.
Windsor House, 9/15 Bedford Street, Belfast BT2 7EG.
4 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF1 9SG.
7 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4FH.

Commission of the European Communities
Recruitment Division,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications, 30 November 1981.

N.B. Since these competitions were advertised in September 1981 the age limit and closing date have been changed. Candidates who have already applied for one of these competitions are kindly requested not to re-apply.

The Commission
of the European Communities

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Appointment of
Director-General

The Board of Governors is proceeding to the appointment of a new Director-General of the BBC to take up office on August 1st 1982.

Applications, nominations or suggestions for consideration by the Board should be sent in confidence to The Chairman, George Howard, (marked D.G.) at Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA not later than November 17th.

Recruitment Opportunities

for details, or to book your advertisement, ring

01-278 9161

Environment Protection Authority
Melbourne, Australia

CHAIRMAN

Applications are invited for the position of Chairman of the Environment Protection Authority

The Authority, which is responsible for the control of water, air, land and noise pollution in Victoria, has a staff of approximately 200, trained in a variety of disciplines. Additional administrative services are provided by the Ministry for Conservation of which the Environment Protection Authority is a part.

It is expected that the Chairman will have:-

- * a proven record in either public or business administration.
- * experience and qualifications in a field relevant to pollution control, environmental management or administration, although an outstanding record in a different field would be considered.
- * exceptional ability to communicate and negotiate at all levels.

Conditions of Employment

This is a full-time position for an initial term of up to 5 years with eligibility for re-appointment. Salary is SA 45122 per annum, with an allowance of SA 1800 per annum. Superannuation is available.

Applications, closing on the 31 December, 1981, should be addressed to:

The Minister for Conservation,

240-Victoria Parade,

East Melbourne, Vic. 3002

Further details regarding this position can be obtained from the Minister for Conservation at the above address, or through telex No. 33832 STADE.

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You should have a strong background in economics (or a related discipline), a post graduate degree and a quantitative training and have had practical experience, preferably in both the United Kingdom and overseas. We are looking particularly for people in their mid to late twenties who need to be highly motivated, versatile problem-solvers.

Competitive salaries will be paid and supplemented by generous allowances on overseas assignments.

Resumes including a daytime telephone number should be sent to: C D Foster, quoting Ref. T10/21

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Recent Economics or P.P.R. graduate required to assist Director of a small international think tank in London. Flair for writing lucid, and correct, English essential. Salary negotiable. Reply with C.V. to:

Box No. 0709 G, The Times

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Exp. Opp. to establish UK sales base for US Co. leading to a £100,000 p.a. salary. Must have broad sales exp. in one or more of these fields: Marine, Aerospace, Prime Movers, Offshore Rigs, Strong Mechanical, with special filtration exp. desirable. In confidence. Box No. 0948 G The Times.

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2. Diagnosing and surfacing electronic hardware.
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Travel for training on specialist equipment is visualised. Applicants should submit particulars of qualifications and experience with copies of testimonials and a photograph to:

QATAR EMBASSY,

MILITARY SECTION,

10 REEVES MEWS, LONDON W1Y 3PB

Selected candidates will be called for interview by employer at place of work in the Gulf when condition of service including salary and benefits which are generous will be discussed.

STATE OF QATAR
ARMED FORCES

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

The applicant should be professionally qualified with full membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants or the Association of Certified Accountants and should have at least ten years' experience in a substantial company or public corporation. Knowledge of internal auditing systems will be an additional requirement of the appointment.

A generous salary in line with the professional qualification and experience of the applicant will be paid. The appointment carries entitlement of free furnished accommodation with 2 months' paid holiday and return air fares for the employee, his wife and 3 children under 16.

All genuine applications will be considered, but ability to understand and speak Arabic will get preference.

Apply to Commander-in-Chief, Qatar Armed Forces, c/o Military Section, Qatar Embassy, 10 Reeves Mews, London, W.1.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM
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3-dimensional designer (graded as curatorial grade E or F) is required to carry out the design of special temporary exhibitions and assist with the planning and detailing of displays in the museum's permanent galleries. The designer will be responsible to the Design Officer and will be working with graphic designers who carry out the typographic design within an exhibition or display. Other duties will also include producing perspective sketches and making scale models.

Candidates must have one of the following or an equivalent qualification:

ARIBA, MA (RCA), BA, Dip. Ad. MSLAD. They must also have had special training and experience in interior decoration of furniture design.

Salary: Grade E-£17,922-23,184. Grade F-£15,273-17,247.

The appointment will be for a period of 3 years with a possible extension of a further 2 years.

Level of appointment and starting salary according to age, qualifications and experience.

A London weighting allowance of £1,087 p.a. is also payable.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 24th November 1981) write on a post-card to Establishments (rel 19/81) British Museum, London, W.C.1.

THE BRITISH AMATEUR
ATHLETIC BOARD

seeks applications for the post of

GENERAL SECRETARY

(Salary range: £11,372-£15,010 plus London Weighting)

To commence on 1st February 1982 or as soon as possible thereafter. It is expected that the successful applicant will be in age range 35-50 years. Closing date for applications is 20th November 1981.

Further information and application forms are obtainable from The Clerk to the Board, British Amateur Athletic Board, Francis House, Francis Street, London, SW1P 1DL.

The British Council of Churches

ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

To administer the work of the Division and through its board and committees serve the British churches in their engagement with public affairs.

The applicant must be a member in good standing of one of the churches in membership with the Council, possess sympathetic understanding of the opportunities and problems in all the concerns of the Division and an awareness of the main trends in the interaction of theology and community affairs.

An application form for the above position can be obtained from:

The General Secretary, British Council of Churches, 2

Eaton Gate, London SW1W 9BL.

Completed forms must be returned by Friday 30th October 1981.

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Written applications with details of education and experience will be held in confidence and should be sent to:

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NORTH YORKSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCILDIRECTOR OF
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Salary: £23,274 - £24,813 (Fulcrum +3)

North Yorkshire is geographically the largest and one of the most beautiful counties in England. Its Director of Social Services will retire in May 1982. This offers a unique opportunity for a qualified, experienced and progressive man or woman to take up a high level appointment.

The person appointed will have responsibility to the County Council for all social services supplied to a population of some 650,000 within an area of over 2 million acres. As well as motivating and controlling the Social Services Department, the Director will be expected to make a major contribution to the corporate management team. This challenging and demanding position is based at Northallerton.

Further details and an application form, which must be returned no later than 18th November 1981, are available from the Chief Executive and Clerk of the County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL7 8AD. (Telephone Northallerton 3123, ext 636 or 622).

The Joseph Rowntree
Charitable Trust

TRUST SECRETARY

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust supports work in education, peace and international relations, social services and investigation and in connection with the Society of Friends (Quakers). It has particular interests now in Northern Ireland and southern Africa, race relations and unemployment. The Secretary explores and presents applications to the trustees, implements their decisions and contributes to the development of policy. Many areas of experience and training could be relevant. It would probably be an advantage to be between 30-50 years old. Membership of, or a close sympathy with, the Society of Friends is desirable. The Secretary needs to combine flexibility and imagination with considerable administrative skills.

Salary in the senior lecturer or professorial range depending on age and experience. Appointment starting late summer of 1982 based in York.

Further details obtainable from the Chairman of the Trust, Christopher J. Holdsworth, 5 Pennsylvania Park, Exeter EX4 8HB, not later than December 12th.

University of Mustansiriyah
-IRAQ

Applications are invited to lecture in the above University from post graduate degree holders, preferably with teaching experience in the following fields:-

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ENGLISH - linguistics, phonetics, drama, poetry, grammar, literature

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Please send your C.V.s to the Personnel Office, 20 Quagga, London SW7. Interviews will be held in London.

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Merseyside Arts is the new regional arts association which will succeed the Merseyside Arts Trust in 1982. The salary offered is on a scale £12,000-£15,000 p.a.

Full job description may be obtained from the Chairman, Merseyside Arts Steering Committee, 3 Southwood Road, Liverpool 17.

Closing date for the receipt of applications is 16 November.

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All advertisements are subject to our standard conditions of acceptance. Times Newspapers Limited, 1, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. 01-562 1000.

Turnout in Croydon moderate

The turnout in the Croydon North-West by-election yesterday was only moderate, despite fine weather.

The poll, of key importance to the leading political parties, was unusual both for the number of candidates, 12, and for the number of helpers giving their support, about 2,000. The results will be analysed by Ivor Crewe in *The Times* tomorrow.

Soviet aim is conquest—Weinberger

Europe must back nuclear arms buildup

By David Spanier

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence, said in London yesterday that the Soviet military buildup carried all the disturbing implications of "a conscious and deliberate search for military superiority designed to be used for aggression and subjugation."

In a strongly argued speech, Mr Weinberger said the United States needed a maximum degree of allied support in the effort to meet the Soviet threat through a policy of nuclear deterrence. The West also had to provide adequate security in South-west Asia, to assure oil supplies.

To counter the Soviet threat in Europe, Mr Weinberger said, it was essential that the European allies proceeded with deployment of the theatre nuclear systems, as approved by NATO.

Unilateral abandonment of this deployment on any part of it in the face of 250 deployed SS-20s, would send clear and very unfortunate signals to the Soviet leadership about the West's intentions, capability to respond when challenged, and resolute determination.

A crowd of 150 young nuclear disarmers, carrying posters and chanting "Weinberger, warmonger" was waiting to protest at British support for American policy. Weinberger, however, evaded them by entering the Royal Institute of International Affairs in St James's Square by a side entrance.

Answering questions on the growth of nuclearism in Europe, Mr Weinberger said that the demonstration, "based on Californian standards", was comparatively small, and that even the protest of 250,000 people who had gathered in Bonn should be seen in proportion. Opinion polls in West Germany showed 65 per cent support for NATO.

In his address, Mr Weinberger drew a clear line between the balance of power in the time of William Pitt, who lived in Chatham House where he was speaking yesterday, and the international situation today. Pitt and his policy of creating a coalition against Napoleon, Mr Weinberger noted, "is security against a danger, the greatest that ever



The Queen smiles as she watches the display of Sri Lankan pageantry.

The Queen salutes Sri Lanka democracy

From Trevor Fishlock, Colombo, Oct 22

A huge crowd gathered on the edge of the Indian Ocean today to hear the Queen salute Sri Lanka's dedicated pursuit of democracy and the achievement of 50 years of general suffrage.

Men and women from 21 upwards were given the vote under the 1971 constitution, only three years after Britain had extended the right to all adult women.

President Jayawardene said today: "Since 1931 there have been 10 general elections, interrupted by a few years of military rule. Changes of government, all occurring peacefully without

bloodshed, through the exercise of the vote."

The Queen, in her tribute, said: "As the history of all too many countries reveals, democracy cannot be taken for granted. It must be cherished and protected."

The Queen and the President were speaking at a rally on Galle Face Green, Colombo's traditional meeting place. Hundreds of thousands of people gathered in the sweltering heat in which scores of girls fainted and were carried away on stretchers.

Preceded by massed motor

cycle riders of the Colombo police, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived to an enthusiastic burst of applause, and took their places on a red dais flanked by two large elephant tusks.

The core of the celebration was a march-past by 25 bands who beat drums, jingled bells and cymbals, and blue horns, pipes and whistles. Many of the musicians were girls dressed in sarongs of saffron, green, white and red, with flowers in their gleaming black hair and bells jingling on their bare feet.

Heseltine is silent on High Court ruling

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, refused yesterday in the Commons to give an instant decision on the Government's response to the court ruling on Wednesday that he had acted unlawfully in cutting the rate support grants of six London boroughs.

His refusal was given a hostile reception by the Opposition and there were signs also on the Tory benches that some of his backbench colleagues were becoming exasperated at their accident-prone secretary of state.

Mr Heseltine made much in his statement to the House, of the fact that the judges in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court had rejected three of the four charges brought against him.

On the fourth charge, that he had failed to listen to new representations from the authorities concerned, he reminded the House that the court had said that it was open to him, after consideration of those representations, to reach any decision he considered right within the terms of the Local Government Planning and Land Act, 1980.

But he pointed out that the judgment ran to nearly 100 pages and the Government would have to study its terms carefully before deciding on its response. With the Opposition favouring whipping boy squarely

in his sights, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Opposition spokesman on the Environment, went into his favourite nuclear holocaust act. To most MPs, even on his own benches, Mr Kaufman's explosion must have spoiled what could have been a legitimate censure of the secretary of state.

He began by describing Mr Heseltine's statement as "characteristically ungracious and shifty". Did he not feel any shame that while continuously warning others not to break the law, he was now discovered to have broken his own laws?

Mr Kaufman told the secretary of state that he should now repay the money that he had "unlawfully filched" from the councils concerned.

One of the most experienced lawyers on the Conservative benches, Sir Derek Walker-Smith, QC, suggested that MPs might feel disinclined to take appreciation of the judgment from the somewhat extempore and pre-fabricated contribution from Mr Kaufman.

His amiable qualities did not include expertise in the law, said Sir Derek, who went on to urge Mr Heseltine to listen to any further representations from the parties concerned and to make his decision in the light of what, if anything, they were worth.

Parliamentary report, page 6

DPP given permission to hurry murder trial

By Lucy Hodges

The case of 15 young blacks charged following the death of Terence May, the motorcyclist who died in Thornton Heath in June 15, is to go to the crown court without further commitment proceedings.

Yesterday, High Court judge Mr Justice Michael Davies, gave the Director of Public Prosecutions leave for a voluntary Bill of Indictment to get the case to a jury trial quickly on the grounds that commitment proceedings in Croydon Magistrates' Court were taking too long.

Mr Sibghat Kadri, a barrister and joint chairman of the Society of Black Lawyers, said it was very serious that such charges should not be tested first in the magistrates' court in the normal way.

The 15 young men are all charged with riotous assembly and seven are also charged with murder. The commitment proceedings, if they continued, would be completed within a reasonable or tolerable time.

"Any trial by jury would thus be delayed for an excessive and unacceptable period," the statement added. That Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, had decided to refer complaints about the conduct of counsel to the professional conduct committee of the Bar Council.

The DPP considered that in the interests of justice the case should go for trial by jury quickly. The statement from the DPP said that Mr Justice Michael Davies thought there was no prospect of commitment proceedings, if they continued, being completed within a reasonable or tolerable time.

"Any trial by jury would thus be delayed for an excessive and unacceptable period," the statement added. That Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, had decided to refer complaints about the conduct of counsel to the professional conduct committee of the Bar Council.

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Murder indictment plea, page 3

Air controllers decertified

The union representing 11,600 United States air traffic controllers dismissed 11 weeks ago for striking illegally against their Federal Government employer has been decertified as a recognized bargaining unit. This is a severe blow to the controllers' fight to get their jobs back, ending the role of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) as a bargaining agent. The move will mean controllers will begin to seek other jobs.

Kidnap gang frees Irish executive

The combined efforts of the security forces, the Provisional IRA and the church apparently persuaded the kidnappers of Mr Ben Dunne, the Irish stores executive, to release him on a quiet country road in south Armagh. He was found, dazed and disbelieved, by a radio reporter and quickly reunited with his family.

Britain may give more aid to poor

It was in Britain's interests to reduce the wealth gap between rich and poor countries, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said when he arrived for the Cancun North-South summit. His remarks represent an apparent new phase in relations with the Third World.

Baby killing case 'misleading'

A leading prosecution witness in the Down's syndrome baby murder trial stated that the Crown case had been inaccurate and misleading. In its position that the baby was healthy at birth; there was brain and lung damage, he said.

Bishops accept women deacons

The Church of England bishops have decided in favour of admitting women to the third degree Holy Orders and make the first step next month toward the ordination of the first woman deacon.

Solidarity threat of one-hour strike

Alleging official intimidation of their union, Solidarity leaders in Poland are considering a one-hour national strike. Spontaneous protests and strikes are being reported from all over the country with both the union and authorities testing each other's strength.

Zimbabwe in the red

Gloomy trade figures published in Zimbabwe show the country well into the red, against a background of public dissatisfaction with rising costs, highlighted by the currency which yesterday spread to 12 towns. Mr Robert Mugabe threatened to "throw them into the bush".

Rail fares cut

British Rail is cutting off-peak fares on Inter-City routes into London by up to two thirds from November 1 to meet competition from express coach services.

Student grants

A substantial increase in the size of the parental contribution towards the student grant, and a cut in the normal duration of the grant from three to two years are among a range of options now being considered by the Government.

Leader page, 15
Letters: On the European monetary system, from Mr Robert Jackson, MEP, and others; on the University cuts, from Mr G. Caston.

Leading articles: Nuclear weapons in Europe; Juvenile wage rates; Iranian studies at Cambridge.

Features, pages 12-14
The death of Westminster, by David Watt; Hungary 25 years after the uprising; the Hollis affair—who was the spy called Eli? Medical briefing on vivisection.

University, page 16
Marriage of Exeter, Mr Leslie Orrey.

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New Commons contest for Labour post

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Veteran Labour MP Mr Fred Willey, who has been in the House of Commons for 36 years, announced last night that he would not stand for re-election at the next general election.

Mr Willey, who has been in the House of Commons for 36 years, announced last night that he would not stand for re-election at the next general election.

He said that he had a heart attack 18 months ago and had now been advised to give up his activities. He represents Sunderland North, and has already told his local party that he will not seek re-election at the next general election.

His decision to stand down as PLP chairman means that the field is left open for a competition between new nominees from the mainstream and from the left wing of the party. Mr Ian Mikardo, MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, has already been asked by the left-wing Tribune Group to be their nominee. The group also proposes to put up a candidate against the Opposition Chief Whip, Mr Michael Cocks, MP for Bristol, South.

Mr Willey, whose gentle, diplomatic manner has made him a most popular chairman of a group which can often become rowdy, said another factor came into his decision. He thought his successor should be a man who was still likely to be in Parliament after the next general election, to give continuity.

Some Labour MPs, who want changes in the PLP and in the Shadow Cabinet to reflect the rightward trend shown in the election of the party's national executive, would like Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, to stand for the PLP chairmanship, but he has not been formally approached.

Next Thursday, the PLP will be asked to endorse the choice of leader and deputy leader made by the electoral college at the annual conference in Brighton.

Previously, the PLP has made the choice and change in leadership orders. It was made next week to provide that the choice of the electoral college in future will automatically be endorsed by the Parliamentary party.

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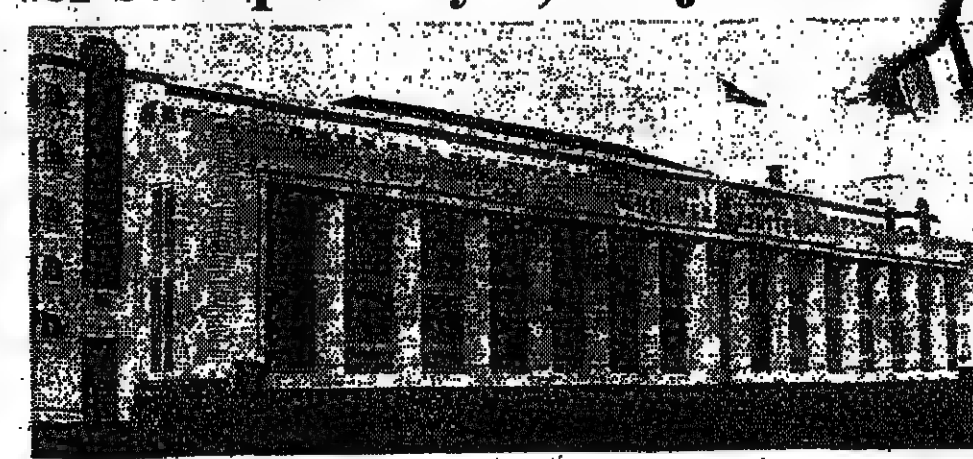
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Hoover sweeps away 2,000 jobs



Closing down: Hoover's art deco headquarters at Perivale, West London.

Avenue means that all vacuum cleaner production will be transferred to its modern and highly automated plant at Cambuslang, together with a reduction in Cambuslang staff of about 400, this move is expected to result in substantial savings.

In Merthyr Tydfil 1,300 workers have already opted for voluntary redundancy. A further 400 will be made redundant over the coming six months. The factory is mainly responsible for Hoover's washing machines and driers.

Other Hoover divisions face cutbacks and reorganization as the company attempts to halt

heavy losses and return to profitability.

Only a few weeks ago management and unions were locked in negotiations over planned closures, cutbacks, and wage reductions. At the time union representatives said they would resist any moves by Hoover to lay off workers and cut earnings.

An attempt by the company to impose a 10 per cent wage cut was rejected by a mass meeting of employees at the Cambuslang plant. Workers also agreed to fight any closures made by the company.

Yesterday workers were told that the planned pay cuts were now negotiable subject to accep-

tance of improved working practices. Hoover says it is determined to reduce labour costs.

Mr Merle Rawson, the Hoover chairman, said that the measures were tough but necessary in the present harsh economic climate.

It gives us no joy in part with loyal employees," he said. "It is distressing to know that we cannot continue to employ all the people who are in the business."

Mr Peter Goode, the managing director, said: "Over recent years we have received a high level of cooperation

Continued on back page, col 6

Robert Fisk reports on Egyptian manoeuvres at the desert base facing Libya

Far from quiet on the western front

Mersa Matruh, Oct 22

From the reinforced concrete dome of Rommel's old staff headquarters, you can watch the Egyptian MiGs take off at dawn.

They climb up from the desert air base just east of Mersa Matruh, sweep low across the city and turn sharply over the lagoon where two missile boats and a cobalt-grey minesweeper — the Egyptian Navy's only visible concession to Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's much-publicized threats — ride gently at anchor.

The aircraft circle the city twice, then head westwards towards the Libyan frontier in a blast of sound that vibrates through the stonework of the old Afrika Corps bunker. It may be peaceful on the western front just now but no one could call it all quiet.

The streets of Mersa Matruh are crowded with soldiery, with screaming military policemen in bright red berets and dirty white belts, with lieutenants sipping drinks in the dusty tea-houses beside the railroad, with jeeps and Army lorries and slightly dated staff cars stuffed with leather-faced colonels.

On the low sand ridges that form a semi-circle south of the city, the Egyptian Army's ground radar scanners flick westwards every four seconds, taking in the 130 miles of air space between this scruffy garrison and the border of what the Egyptian Government pointedly refuses to call the Libyan People's Jamahiriya.

As usual, the Egyptian authorities insist that everything is normal in Mersa Matruh. The middle-aged civil servant in the city's little tourist office—a well-read man from the delta who has just translated Alex Haley's *Roots* into Arabic but who has understandably few tourists with whom to cope just now — claims that there can never be a serious war between Libya and Egypt.

Close personal ties with Libyans

There are family connections," he says. "Egyptian men have married Libyan ladies and Libyan men have married Egyptian ladies. We are all Arab people. But I suppose this could be the prelude to the thunderstorm." His words were drowned by a pair of low-flying MiG17s that raced over the city.

It is true that there are close personal ties between the 50,000 people of Mersa Matruh and their cousins to the west. Many of the people here have the lean, dark facial features of Libyans and while no one expresses any enthusiasm for the point that he is in Tripoli, Anwar Sadat was not a particularly popular figure here.

His hatred of Libya closed the border between the two countries and deprived Mersa Matruh of its Libyan tourists. This week, the pipeline for the city's water supply ran out. There are more pictures of Nasser in the governorate offices than there are of Sadat and not one photograph of

President Hosni Mubarak is to be seen.

Yet Mr Mubarak seems to be as anxious as the people of Mersa Matruh to avoid a war with Libya. He used to urge restraint when Sadat issued his regular tirades against Colonel Gaddafi, and he has no reason to exacerbate the strained relationship between Cairo and Tripoli at a moment when it is in the interest of Egypt and the United States to revive friendly ships elsewhere in the Arab world.

Syria is supposed to be sending troops from an armoured brigade to Tripoli to assist in Libya's defence; neither President Reagan nor Mr Mubarak wishes to see an inter-Arab war breaking out within a month of Sadat's assassination.

Egyptian army of 50,000 troops

If President Gafar Muhammad Nimeiry of Sudan should therefore be tempted to strike at the Libyans in Chad, he will not be able to rely upon Egypt to divert Colonel Gaddafi's attention on the Mediterranean.

Nor is the Libyan leader likely to risk a raid into Egypt. The Egyptian western Army command in Mersa Matruh controls around 50,000 troops—almost equal to the entire strength of the Libyan Army in the triangle of desert between here, the border post at Salum and the southern oasis of Siwa.

Some of the desert territory may even be worth cherishing. At least 12 international companies are prospecting for oil around Siwa, and the Egyptians have good reason to safeguard an area of such potential revenue.

The place has about it the isolated, slightly disturbing atmosphere of a foreign legion encampment, an idea made almost palpable by the massive, stone-walled fortress on the hill above the railway station. Egyptian soldiers with fixed bayonets guard the varnished wooden gates of this building while above the palisade can be glimpsed the turrets of a palace.

In reality, it is not a fort at all but the Government offices of the united Egyptian-Syrian-Libyan Federation of Arab Republics that was declared with such doubtful intent back in 1971.

Here, in a city that has long been a restricted military area, the Egyptians are still completing this great monument to Arab brotherhood. Long after Camp David finally destroyed Nasser's concept of pan-Arab unity, the palace stands now, as empty as the expressions of fraternal loyalty that once accompanied the federation's birth.

Perhaps Mr Mubarak can rekindle those old hopes but he can never escape the irony contained within the mud road that runs south of the palace. For at the end of it—less than half a mile from the construction that was to cement Egyptian-Libyan friendship—are parked the Egyptian Air Force's Phantom fighter-bombers, beside concrete hangars that have been specially reinforced to protect the aircraft from Libyan bombs.

Follow the Leader



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AIRLINE SOLVES LIBYA MYSTERY

From Moshe Brilliant

Tel Aviv, Oct 22

Mr Michael Gurdus, the radio monitor with Israel broadcast intelligence who has achieved several world scoops, today discovered that United States aircraft and crews had been shuttling between Libya and Syria since Sunday.

His report triggered speculation that the Syrians were airlifting two armoured brigades to Libya. But tonight Capital Airlines revealed that four of its aircraft had been chartered by the Libyans to repatriate pilgrims from Mecca.

ARTHUR BELL & SONS LTD. ESTABLISHED 1825 AND STILL AN INDEPENDENT COMPANY

Parents may have to pay more for student grant

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

A substantial increase in the size of the parental contribution towards student grants, and a cut in their normal duration from three to two years, are among savings being considered by the Government.

Other options include: the abolition of the minimum grant, now £410, paid to all students on mandatory grants regardless of their parents' income; redesignation of courses so as to restrict those for which students are automatically eligible for mandatory awards; and a cut in the size of the student grant in real terms.

No decisions have been taken on any of the options, though it is clear that some are more extreme and difficult to implement than others.

A cut in the student grant seems virtually inevitable, student leaders say that the grant has been cut by four per cent in real terms by the Government in each of the last two years. But there is now evidence to suggest that grants have, in fact, just about kept pace with inflation since 1979.

Ministers feel that a cut in real terms would not produce intolerable hardship, and that it would be politically undesirable to allow grants to rise by more than the four per cent allowed for wage increases.

A total freeze on awards, making no allowance at all for inflation, is also being considered.

A change to make parents pay more and from a lower income level also appears likely, despite earlier Conservative pledges to seek to abolish the parental contribution.

A further cut in the universities' grant and in public sector higher education has not been ruled out.

Education ministers are arguing that it would actually cost less particularly in the case of staff cuts were largely through voluntary redundancies and early retirements.

Royal Holloway College of London University and Brunel University, in Uxbridge, Middlesex, are considering a merger in the face of cuts in grant in each institution of about a fifth over the next three years.

Mr E. R. Chandler, registrar of Brunel, emphasized yesterday that there were "very considerable difficulties" in the way of any formal union, but that the geographical closeness of the two institutions and the remarkably complementary nature of their academic provision made closer cooperation very attractive.

Brunel is only 12 miles from Royal Holloway, closer than any of the other London col-

leges with which Royal Holloway might have considered merging. Royal Holloway has virtually no social science or technology, while Brunel has virtually no arts.

Brunel's senate and Royal Holloway's academic board have both voted in favour of immediate discussions on a "close link or union" between the two institutions. Royal Holloway at present has 1,600 students and Brunel 3,300 but both are due to be cut by more than a tenth over the next three years.

A change in the nature of public examinations might help to narrow the gap in educational achievement between the social classes. Mr Peter Mortimore, director of research for the Inner London Education Authority, suggested at a conference in London yesterday.

The conference, which was attended by at least one teacher from each of the authority's schools, marked the beginning of a year-long investigation by the authority into the apparent under-achievement among working-class children and girls, and children from ethnic minorities.

Many studies had shown significant differences in the academic attainment between social classes at every stage of education, Mr Mortimore said.

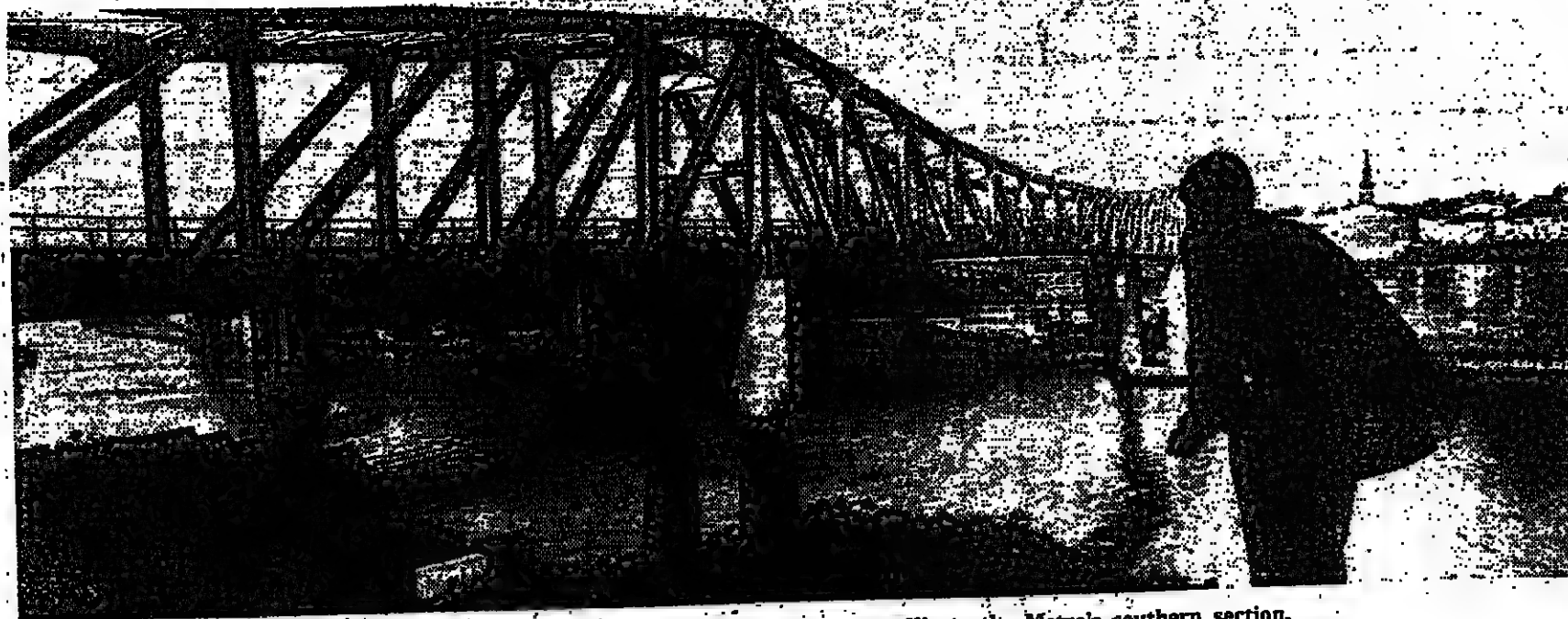
The latest figures for university entrance, for example, showed that the chances of a pupil with a professional or managerial family background going to university were nearly 12 times better than those of a pupil from an unskilled or semi-skilled family background.

Various activities designed to overcome the apparent educational handicap of working-class children had been tried, but although some individual projects were able to demonstrate success, the combined impact of the programmes seemed to have been relatively slight.

The number of overseas students in institutions of higher and further education in the public sector fell by 19 per cent last year, the first year of the new fees, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Education and Science.

The number of home students on full-time and sandwich courses in maintained colleges increased by 5 per cent.

The Department of Education and Science statistical bulletin 15/81, Elizabeth House, York Road, London, SE1 7PH.



Spanning the Tyne: A new bridge which will carry traffic to the Metro's southern section.

Motobrists move to the Metro system

The people of Newcastle upon Tyne like their new Metro trains so much that the city may have to start getting rid of buses (Michael Bailey, Our Transport Correspondent writes). Drawn by cheerful little lightweight trains that cut quickly and cheaply through city traffic, passengers are abandoning buses and cars in droves. Already 11 per cent of private motorists on Metro routes have switched.

The success of the Metro is highly welcome because there had been severe doubts about it since the Heath government agreed in 1971 to Britain's biggest investment in urban transport since the war.

Indeed, there were fears of cancellation when, by 1976, the budgeted cost of £72m had risen to £107m, and the project was absorbing an inordinate share of urban transport funds at the expense of rival cities such as London, Liverpool and Manchester.

But with tunnels half dug and the tramlike train half built, the scheme scraped through with rough financial restraints to make sure Tyneside spent not another needless penny on it. Even so, the

final cost is expected to be more than £280m, four times the original estimate.

The system does not officially open until the Queen performs a ceremony next week, but two northern sections, one out to the coast at Tynemouth, have been operating for months.

With well over a million passengers a month, traffic is about a quarter higher than predicted. There have been arguments over money between the Labour-controlled county council and the Government. With support to the passenger transport executive of

£16m last year, there is strong pressure from Whitehall to push up fares, at present Britain's lowest after South Yorkshire at 8p minimum and 46p maximum.

There are complaints too that the Metro does not connect with the airport, though there is a rail track nearly all the way; that it is noisy in residential areas; and that people not living near it are getting a worse public transport service than before.

The answer to that, the PTE says, is to move some of those surplus buses to make a properly integrated service.

Tebbit hit on head by egg

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, was hit on the head by an egg thrown by a rowdy demonstrator as he visited an employment office in Islington, north London, yesterday.

About thirty demonstrators were waiting for Mr Tebbit when he arrived by car accompanied by two civil servants. They surged round him and the egg was thrown from two feet away, hitting him on the crown of the head. It burst and the yolk dribbled down his neck on to his clothing.

Police were called and the demonstrators, who called themselves the Islington Action Group of Unemployment, were removed from the building as the minister hurried upstairs.

Mr Tebbit is visiting different sections of the department to learn more about his job. He was met by fifty demonstrators at a Youth Opportunities Programme scheme in south London, Wednesday.

Whitehall union alters CND policy

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The biggest Civil Service union has decided to backtrack on a conference decision to affiliate to the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, partly in response to protests from its influential Ministry of Defence membership.

In a move which will provoke the wrath of the union's left-wing activists, the Civil and Public Services Association, which has decided for the moment only to tell branches that they can affiliate locally if they wish.

The controversial decision to affiliate nationally to CND was taken at the annual conference in May after a stormy debate. It provoked an angry walkout by MOD delegates opposed both on policy grounds and because of the threat to jobs, which some see as consequent on a unilateralist policy.

At the same time the executive voted by 33 to 10 not to join its official banner tomorrow's big CND march through London, which it had been invited to head with other unions.

The union decision provides that it will revise the question of affiliation nationally to CND in the light of the response to the circular allowing branches to join locally.

Those in the union's leadership opposed to immediate national affiliation who included Mr Alexander Graham, deputy general secretary of the CPSSA, varied between those opposed on principle and those who fear that it could stimulate desertions from the union's 50,000 MOD members.

The Ministry of Defence Staff Association, a breakaway body formed by dissidents in several Civil Service unions, is regarded with contempt by most senior CPSSA officials.

But there are fears among those in the executive that if some of the executive that it might attract more members if the union affiliated nationally to CND.

In another victory for the union's dominant centre-right coalition, the executive approved, after a long-running debate, a motion to circulate its own recommendations to members on how to vote in two important union elections and to have them included in election addresses.

The executive is recommending Mr Graham as a candidate in the election to replace Mr Kenneth Thomas, who retires next June as general secretary. Mr Graham's main rival is Mr John Macreadie, a supporter of the Militant Tendency, who has the backing of broad left interests in the union.

Municipal nuclear disarmers led by the left-wing Labour councillors of Manchester yesterday won a significant round in their battle to have the city declared "nuclear-free zones" (David Walker writes).

The policy committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents city and metropolitan county councils in England, decided to give official endorsement to those authorities such as the Greater London Council which have opposed nuclear weapons and the carriage of nuclear fuels within their boundaries.

Estate near minster is approved

From Our Correspondent, Hull

A housing estate which objectors say will ruin a magnificent view of Beverley Minster was approved by Beverley Borough Council last night.

Labour members supported the ruling Conservative group and there were only six Liberal votes supporting Mr William Hamilton's amendment calling for interested parties to try to find a compromise.

The local Ombudsman, who investigated complaints by objectors, accused the council of misadministration in his report. He said injustices had been caused to those who had complained of lack of consultation; they had not been properly informed and the application by a housing association to build 98 houses had been rushed through with undue haste.

The developed is to take place on land which the council bought and cleared, which left a new and imposing view of the minster from the south and west.

Mr Claude Sonley, leader of the council, told yesterday's meeting that nobody could complain that their views were not considered when planning permission was recommended. There were no profit motives in the council's mind.

Revocation of planning permission would create a very great injustice for the housing cooperative, he said. There were people who thought the council was wrong, but they must accept the democratic process.

Carlisle and Westminster city councils have won the two top awards in the 1981 competition organized by the National Home Improvement Council (John Young reports).

Source: Earth and Planetary Science Letters vol 55, p 37 (1981). Nature-Times News Service (1981).

The picture they arrive at is of some deep and stable source within the Earth of the rising hot plumes of molten rock these plumes, together with the broader movements, shift the continental and ocean plates about the Earth. And the plumes themselves, or the system that causes them, drift slowly across the Earth, with respect to its astronomical rotation. The cause of all this, deep within the Earth, can be only guessed at.

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Science Report 'Hot spots' helped the North Pole to shift

By the Staff of Nature

"Still it moves!" Galileo is fondly supposed to have uttered after his trial, where he was forced to agree to the doctrine that the Earth was fixed. Since then astronomy and geology seem to have underscored that remark again and again; as more and more complex motions of the Earth and its surface have been discovered. Now another may be added to the list. The Earth, two geologists in the United States say, is moving bodily with respect to its axis of rotation, the true North-South polar axis.

This rotational axis (distinct from the magnetic axis, which shifts about with changing currents in the Earth's molten core) remains fixed in space, but for some small movements caused by the gravitational field of the Sun, Moon and planets. But if the Americans are right, the rocky substance of the Earth shifts across even this rotation.

This motion is to be added to the better known slow motion of the continents and the ocean floors. While all that continental drift is going on, the whole system is moving together over the face of the Earth.

So, Richard G. Gordon of Northwestern University and University of Cape of South Africa say about 70 million years ago the North (rotational) pole was at what we would now call roughly 22°N, 20°E, some 500 miles from its present position.

The evidence for this, which will be contested, is an apparent discrepancy between two systems of measurement for the position of the Pacific "plate" (the Pacific "plate" is the Pacific plate) over the last 70 million years.

One depends on the existence of "hot spots" deep in the Earth's rocky mantle, under the cold crust. These hot spots seem to be localized upwellings of molten rock which form chains of extinct volcanic islands as the Pacific plate moves over them.

The best known is the one which presently ends in Hawaii, and stretches away from it to the west and north. The chains thus formed by each hot spot are roughly parallel, and indicate the motion of the plate like giant scratches.

Taking all the data together, Gordon and Cape find that the Pacific plate has moved differently with respect to the hot spots than with respect to the equator. They also accumulate evidence that the hot spots throughout the world are more or less fixed with respect to one another.

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AUSTIN REED



The Austin Reed Man Wears 'Comfort Stretch'. A remarkable cloth combining the good looks of Pure New Wool with a secret stretchability for comfort. Superbly tailored by Oscar Jacobson £145.00.

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Regent Street, London and Principal Cities



Windsor wants its fleeting tourists to linger longer

By John Young, Planning Reporter

The Japanese tourists thronging Windsor in yesterday's brilliant sunshine certainly did not look exhausted. But then, as Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the Windsor Tourist Board, observed, the stoic orientation of the Japanese to show his respect for the British.

Addressing a conference in, of all places, the Eton College theatre, Mr Montague painted a horrifying picture of jumbo jets arriving at Heathrow shortly after dawn and their passengers being whisked into coaches for a lightning tour of Windsor Castle before they even check into their hotels.

Maybe the Japanese like it that way, but Windsor emphatically does not. The town is fed up with being a pit stop on the tourist grand prix circuit; it wants visitors to stay longer and, of course, spend more money.

Yesterday's conference marked something of a turning point, since until now tourists have not been exactly popular either with residents or with the authorities.

"We have tended to sit back, do nothing for them and hope they would go away," a council official admitted. "We felt overwhelmed by the sheer numbers and we were, if you like, fomenting antipathy between residents and tour operators."

The royal borough has now come round to the view that the tourists are going to continue coming, whether the locals like it or not, it would be in everyone's interests to

EX-MODEL IS FOUND DEAD

Miss Jessica Kitson, aged 34, a former model and god-daughter of the late Paul Getty, had been found dead in the kitchen of her London home, it was learnt last night.

Her body was discovered by her boyfriend on Monday night at her home in Oaklands Grove, Shepherd's Bush. Her son, Wolf, aged three, was asleep on a sofa near by.

Scotland Yard said last night that there were no suspicious circumstances, but it is likely there will be an inquest.

Miss Kitson was the daughter of Mrs. Penelope Kitson, interior decorating adviser and close friend of Mr Getty. She inherited £500,000 and £8,000 a year for life on his death.

Her father was a landowner, Major Robert Kitson.

Winston Rose, the black amateur boxer who died while in police custody in July, was not mentally handicapped, as stated in a report yesterday. He was diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic and was therefore mentally ill.

Overseas selling prices: Austria \$2.25, Belgium \$2.00, Canada \$2.50, Denmark \$2.00, France \$2.00, Germany \$2.00, Greece \$2.00, Holland \$2.00, Italy \$2.00, Japan \$2.00, Korea \$2.00, Malaysia \$2.00, Mexico \$2.00, Norway \$2.00, Portugal \$2.00, Spain \$2.00, Sweden \$2.00, Switzerland \$2.00, Taiwan \$2.00, Thailand \$2.00, USA \$2.00, Yugoslavia \$2.00.

MORE BRITISH THAN THE BRITISH

A disturbing Anglia Television report on the future of the Falkland Islands...

SUNDAY ON ITV at 11.20 p.m.

The Falkland Islands, 300 miles off the coast of Argentina, is one of Britain's last remaining possessions overseas. Argentina says the islands belong to them and has stepped up its long held sovereignty claim.

The islanders are fiercely patriotic and want to remain British but fear the Government will reach a settlement with Argentina which may threaten their unique British way of life....

Shadow minister calls for Labour incomes policy

From David Felton, Labour Reporter, Harrogate

Leading Labour Party and trade union officials are moving tentatively towards agreement on a new "social contract" to be implemented if Labour wins the next general election.

An agreement between the unions and the party on a wide range of economic planning issues, including wages, is a long way off but is likely to be discussed at a meeting on Monday of the Labour Party/TUC Liaison Committee.

Senior party officials believe that the current good for an agreement, which is now termed the "national economic assessment", against the background of the right's successes in the elections to the party's national executive and the ravages of unemployment and falling membership being suffered by the unions.

Mr Eric Varley, the opposition spokesman on employment, yesterday strongly defended the need for an incomes policy in the most forthright call for a wages compact made by a front bench spokesman since Labour lost the 1979 election.

He told the Institute of Personnel Management conference

in Harrogate that free collective bargaining had not worked and had done more to destroy differentials than previous incomes policies.

At the same conference Mr David Barnett, chairman of the TUC's influential economics committee, said that while incomes policies had not worked, a consensus on general economic policy, the social wage and productivity bargaining was needed.

He proposed that the national economic assessment should be conducted annually, along the lines of the West German experience, with unions and government agreeing on "broad parameters" and the economic outlook.

Despite optimism in the senior party hierarchy that the union mood on incomes policy is changing, it is accepted that it will be difficult to win the support of some unions, notably the Transport and General Workers', which is firmly committed to free collective bargaining.

Mr Barnett, who is also general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union,

suggested that collective bargaining should be widened and that there should be a genuine dialogue on all aspects of social and economic change.

He suggested that there could be a "trade-off" between the social wage and direct wages. Government and unions would see the trade-off differently, but would have to compromise during bargaining.

Mr Varley agreed that discarding free collective bargaining would be difficult in view of the stance of some unions, and the "hard left".

Admits must be the priority in any new government scheme to create work for the unemployed, a senior TUC official said yesterday (Mark Jackson, of The Times Educational Supplement, writes).



Twelve across and seven down... it must be an anagram. Virginia Wade and Sue Barker discuss a crossword clue during the Daihatsu tennis tournament in Brighton yesterday (Photograph by Brian Harris).

Husband gets a £50,000 pay-off

A husband from a working-class background who married into money yesterday won a £50,000 end-of-marriage pay-off from his wealthy former wife.

As a poorly paid college lecturer he met, fell in love with and married the daughter of a northern businessman. But after 20 years the marriage failed, a High Court judge said. The wife divorced her husband, who has now risen through the business ranks to a £21,000-a-year post, with prospects of boardroom status.

She offered to pay him £28,000 and argued against any higher figure. A victim of multiple sclerosis, she feared she would have insufficient resources to meet her needs if the illness became worse.

But Mrs Justice Booth ruled that she should pay her husband a £50,000 settlement from her £400,000 fortune. She ordered that neither party be named.

The judge said that although the husband was largely financially dependent on his wife for much of the marriage and made a "minimal" cash contribution to the family coffers, his contribution had to be measured other than in cash alone.

"He has been far from content to live the idle life of a playboy," she said. Instead he has worked hard and has independently achieved considerable success. Throughout a long period, that work took him away from the matrimonial home, but he regularly returned every weekend, which invariably involved many hours of travelling.

"He must be credited with making every effort to keep the family together when it otherwise might have fallen apart at a much earlier stage", the judge said.

The husband, who was now buying a £75,000 house in keeping with his job status, had sought either a lump sum payment of £50,000 or a £75,000 settlement to be used for provision of a house for him during his lifetime.

Anti-cancer drug 'impossible to detect'

From Ronald Kershaw, Middlesbrough

The anti-cancer drug which it is alleged was used to kill Mrs Margaret Vickers, the wife of a Newcastle surgeon, was undetectable in a living person 10 hours after it was administered, and in a dead person there was no known means of detecting it, a drug expert told Teesside Crown Court yesterday.

Dr John Simister, a practising physician and head of the medical department of Lund Beck, the London company handling the imported drug known as CCNU, told a jury that CCNU was quickly eliminated from the body and under normal administration there was no reliable technique for detecting it.

Dr Simister's evidence came on the fourth day of the trial of Paul Vickers, aged 47, consultant orthopaedic surgeon, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Pamela Collison, aged 34, his former mistress, a political researcher, of Margaret Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire. Both deny murdering Mrs Vickers.

Dr Simister told the court that CCNU depressed the bone marrow and caused aplasia. Mrs Vickers is alleged to have died from aplastic anaemia.

Dr Simister said he would expect total aplasia had a patient been given 44 capsules of 40 mg each over a period of 17 weeks. There would be no bone marrow left, total aplasia. If only eight tablets had been taken, the bone marrow would have been depressed but would have recovered. The effects of the drug depended on the speed over a period of time during which the capsules were administered.

In reply to Mr Gilbert Gray QC, defending Mr Vickers, Dr Simister agreed that it was possible to contract aplastic anaemia from other drugs through an idiosyncratic reaction. They included a number of antibiotics and anti-inflammatory agents used in the treatment of arthritis and rheumatism.

The hearing continues today.

Police give riot evidence pledge

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, yesterday gave a pledge to safeguard riot evidence which his officers are accused of gaining by underhand tactics.

Barristers representing Mr Oxford gave the assurance at Liverpool Crown Court, where a legal fight is being fought to recover clothes belonging to a man injured in the Toxteth riots.

The hearing, in chambers, came after Pearl Merton, a nurse, claimed she was deceived this week into handing over the clothes worn by her brother, Mr Kenneth Anderson, when he was hit by a CS gas canister.

The clothes were to be used as evidence against the police in a claim for compensation by Mr Anderson.

Mr Robert Broudie, Mr Anderson's solicitor, alleges that

two policemen told Mrs Merton she had authorized them to collect the clothes.

An application for an injunction brought by Mr Anderson against Mr Oxford was adjourned until Monday for more evidence to be brought forward. Mr Anderson, unemployed, of Heswall, Wirral, Toxteth, was struck in the groin by a CS gas cylinder during troubles on the night of July 17. He has since been charged with five offences, including throwing petrol bombs and possessing offensive weapons on the same night.

Police under a constant barrage of bricks and petrol bombs, a black youth. But when he was chased by police, Dennis Korie tripped over a kerb and was captured, Liverpool. Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Korie, aged 17, of Roseberry Street, Toxteth, denies charges of carrying an offensive weapon and criminal damage to a police Land-Rover.

Two men who faced a hearing armed with 150 to 200 people, to help two police officers, were praised yesterday by Mr Charles McLachlan, Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire (The Press Association reports).

They are Mr Christopher O'Leary, aged 32, and Mr David Hutchins, aged 34, who received the joint Nottinghamshire Citizen of the Month Award.

Five men who have been

Less law and more order with community policing

By Lucy Hodges

Community policing in Exeter has shown that if people help to control their own communities they feel safer and the quality of the police service improves, according to research findings published today in *Community versus Crime*.

Much of the crime in Exeter was a direct result of the policies of central and local government, it was found. For example, the siting of a discotheque could change totally the crime patterns.

The author, Chief Supt Colin Moore, who led the novel crime prevention support unit of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, whose chief constable is Mr John Alderson, said yesterday that when people were

shown the level of delinquency on their housing estate they wanted to do something about it.

The book, which is co-written by Mr John Brown, director of social policy at Cranfield Institute of Technology, shows how the unit collected the facts on crime in Exeter. It discovered where crime happened, identified the factors which encouraged it and tried to influence the planners' decisions.

Community versus Crime (Bedford Square Press, £5.95 hardbound or £4.95 paperback. Available from bookshops or by post £9.95 hardbound or £8.95 paperback from Macdonald and Evans Distribution Services Ltd, Exeter Road, Plymouth).

CARRINGTON BACKS LIBEL CLAIM

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has agreed to allow public funds to be used to help finance the libel being brought by Mr Gordon Kirby, a former vice-consul in Saudi Arabia, against the satirical magazine, *Private Eye*, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

When Mr Kirby issued the writ the Foreign Office said the action was "his and his alone". He was not promised help from public funds.

Mr Kirby, aged 36, now based at the Foreign Office, in London, claims that articles in *Private Eye* about the death of the nurse, Miss Helen Smith, after a party at a flat in Juddah in May, 1979, contained untrue allegations damaging to him and his family.

The Barry Prosser case

Birmingham judge to hear murder indictment plea

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

The application for a Bill of Indictment to accuse three prison officers of the murder of Mr Barry Prosser in Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, in August last year will be heard by Mr Justice Stephen Brown sitting in chambers at Birmingham Law Courts today.

It had been expected that the application would be made to Mr Justice Farguharson at Leicester Crown Court. Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, leader of the Midlands and Oxford circuit, who is leading the prosecution of Dr Leonard Arthur at Leicester Crown Court, will represent the Director of Public Prosecutions. The nature of the application does not allow defence representatives to be present.

It was not known yesterday how long the application would take but it is expected that the subsequent crown court hearing will be moved from Birmingham.

On September 30, after an eight-day hearing, the three prison officers, Jackson, aged 32, Eric Smith, aged 32, and Howard Price, aged 24, who are now on paid leave, were discharged by Mr F. H. Hatchard, the Birmingham Specially Magistrate, who said they would not have to stand trial accused of Mr Prosser's murder.

Mr Hatchard said that a jury properly convicted any of the accused.

The man who brought new life to an obscure Bill

By Marcel Berlins

Within the space of two days Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, has dragged the Bill of Indictment out of its obscurity.

Today, he is applying to a High Court judge for such a Bill against three prison officers formerly accused of having killed Mr Barry Prosser (after having announced, two weeks ago, that the file was closed). Yesterday, he obtained leave to prefer a Bill against 15 black youths allegedly involved in events leading to the death of a white youngster.

To complete an exciting week, a coroner's jury returned a verdict of unlawful killing at the inquest on Mr Winston Rose, a case in which the DPP had previously announced he was taking no action.

Sir Thomas (known to his friends as Tony) is no stranger to controversy. His gentle looks, humour, and affable manner disguise a tough, courageous, competent personality that has become accustomed to criticism, much of it ill-founded, which he bears with great patience.

He believes passionately in being as open about his work as he can, a progressive approach which has on occasion rebounded on him. Because he has revealed so much more than his predecessor, his decisions have been the subject of far more comment, some of it unfavourable.

He has been criticized for the prosecutions he has brought, for example, against Mr Jeremy Thorpe, and, more often, for prosecutions he has not brought over the deaths of Mr Blair Peach and Mr James Kelly against alleged rioters in



Sir Thomas: Courageous and much criticized.

St Paul's, Bristol, (after a jury disagreement) and against Sir Peter Hasman, the former diplomat linked with the paedophile trial.

The anti-pornography lobby thinks he is soft on "porn". Life, the anti-abortion group, thinks he should prosecute more doctors; and some civil liberties supporters believe he should prosecute more police men.

Sir Thomas, aged 55, became director after nine years as the legal secretary to the Law Officers, where he had special responsibility in the area of terrorism and bombing.

The son of a Scottish doctor, he still considers himself a Scot, although he has lived in England all the his life (he was educated at Rugby and Christ Church, Oxford).

IN BRIEF

Little people get a star job

A jobcentre at Borehamwood has solved a small problem by finding 30 tiny adults to play extras in a new *Star Wars* film. Shooting starts in January at Elstree studios and 30 cast members four feet tall or less were required.

The studio approached the jobcentre, which advertised and drew a list of 100 applicants for the £40-a-day jobs to be measured against.

Barrier crash damages

A man aged 23 who was said to have "lost the joy of life" after suffering brain damage and losing an eye in a car crash was awarded £39,125 damages in the High Court yesterday. Mr Lester Foss, of Haroldslia Drive, Hatley, Sussex, crashed his car into roadwork barriers erected by Westminster City Council who, the judge said, had used poles which were "clearly hazardous" and contrary to road safety recommendations. Mr Foss's driving was also criticized.

BBC 2 afternoon TV

BBC 2 is to begin general programming in the afternoons, showing mainly films and repeats, from November 2. The programmes will begin at 3.55 pm. The new schedule is part of a long-term plan aimed at moving education programmes from BBC 1 to BBC 2.

Jet dives into sea

A Hunter jet fighter has crashed into the Bristol Channel 50 miles from its base at RAF Brawdy. A violent explosion was reported in the area on Wednesday but both aircraft were ejected safely and were found shortly afterwards by a Nimrod aircraft. Neither was seriously hurt in the incident.

Sir Stuart moved

Lieutenant-General Sir Stuart Pringle was yesterday moved out of the intensive care unit at King's College Hospital, south London, where his right leg was amputated below the knee after the bombing near his home last Saturday.

Plea to Heseltine

Mr Michael Jopping, Government Chief Whip and MP for Westmorland, has asked Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, to meet the Lake District Special Planning Board to discuss their "new houses for locals only" policy to which Mr Heseltine is opposed.

Rag raids banned

Student leaders at Nottingham University have banned high speed trips into other countries to sell their rag magazine after the death of Sarah Wilson, aged 19, in a car accident. Last year two students on a rag raid were killed.

Stolen gun reward

A reward of up to £10,000 is being offered for information about 2,160 cases of gun stolen from two Freighliner containers taken from a British Rail depot at Bristol.

Police car death

Mrs Catherine Bryden, of Kerryrow Street, Torquay, Glasgow, was killed in an accident involving a police car in Prospecthill Road, near her home, early yesterday.

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Consult your Travel Agency or our timetable for exact details on all of our flights.

Rail fares into London cut by up to two thirds

By Robin Young

British Rail is cutting off-peak fares on Inter-City routes into London by up to two thirds from November 1 to try to fill seats and counter increasingly keen competition from express coach services.

Mr Peter Keen, BR's chief passenger manager, said yesterday that the new cheap fares were "a bold move in a tight financial situation". BR's passenger and freight traffic is down by an eighth this year, and a loss of £140m is expected.

BR estimates that it has lost £10m in revenue to coaches, and may now become involved in a fare war with the National Bus Company, which has increased the number of its passengers by about a third this year, carrying an extra three or four million passengers.

A spokesman for the National Bus Company said yesterday: "A competitive situation exists and all operators are keeping a careful watch on each other."

The railways blame most of their loss of traffic on the recession. Mr Keen said: "People are having to be a good deal more careful with their money and leisure travel has suffered."

Many of the new fares, to be sold as "London Savers", are as low as those in the mid-1970s.

The fares will apply until the new year, when the position will be reviewed. They come into operation just four weeks before a general increase in rail fares of almost a tenth.

London Savers, which were introduced experimentally on West Country and South Wales routes to London earlier this month, will now be available on most routes to London, though on the east coast main line they will have to be booked in advance because of a restricted number of seats.

Fares for journeys starting from London are not affected. Mr Keen said: "The aim is to fill empty seats on a number of London-bound trains."

More than two million Railcard holders will be able to buy London Savers with a further reduction of £2 off fares over £10, and of £1 below £10.

British Rail say the new scheme should not be compared to that adopted by Swedish Railways, which reduced all fares by half this year, leading to a traffic increase of more than a third.

"The Swedish Railways were subsidised by their government. We have had no promise of any comparable grant, so ours is a marketing decision taken on commercial grounds," BR said.

Examples of the new return fares are: £5 from Coventry, where the normal return fare is £16.20; £9 from Liverpool, against the normal return of £24.10; £12 from Scarborough, against £37.30; and £20 from Glasgow and Edinburgh, less than half the current fare.



A cruise missile (left) is fired from its launcher (above).

Work on base for missiles

Work on preparing Greenham Common, near Newbury, Berkshire, as a base for cruise missiles is now under way (Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, writes).

Pictures have been released of a test-firing of a Tomahawk cruise missile of the type to be based in Britain in about two years.

The ground-based version of the missile forms an important part of the modernisation programme for American theatre nuclear weapons in Europe.

which was agreed by Nato in December, 1979. It has been surrounded by controversy of one kind or another ever since. Britain will have 160 of them, divided between Greenham Common and Molesworth, Cambridgeshire.

At the first sign of danger the missiles would be trundled away from their bases to avoid a preemptive strike and would be redeployed in woods and other well-screened locations far away.

Leading article, page 15

EXIT man tells of woman 'going out happy' on pills and brandy

By Frances Gibb

The man accused of murdering a woman of 90 in the euthanasia trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday told the jury how he visited her house with tablets, plastic bags and elastic bands because he "did not know what would be required".

In macabre detail, Mark Lyons, aged 70, of Fairhazel Gardens, West Hampstead, London, described how the woman took some anti-sickness tablets and he gave her brandy diluted with water to wash them down.

"She began to crutch them in her teeth, and not having any teeth myself, it was just like hearing a dog crunching a bone," he said. "It put my nerves on edge."

He said he mixed some brandy with water for her and handed her the glass. Asked by Mr Justice Neil Lawson what operation he thought he was assisting in, Mr Lyons replied: "She just fancied a drink."

"She fancied brandy, and she asked for it and said: 'I cannot drink it neat, and so I said: "Say when," and put brandy in first and then added the water."

"It was purely and simply that she said: 'I might as well go out jolly and happy."

Mr Lyons said he and the woman laughed and chatted and she said to him: "I'm a tough old bird, aren't I?" He left the room and when he came back she had fallen asleep. At no time, Mr Lyons told the court, did he put a plastic bag over her head as

alleged by the prosecution. "It was not necessary."

Asked by the judge about an entry in his diary for the day of the woman's death, February 20, 1980, which read: "Repay for tablets and bags, elastic etc, £10", Mr Lyons said there was a simple explanation, "I did not know what was required."

He said he had bought some elastic bands and picked three of the largest, "which would not burst with the tension of the stretching", and put them into his holdall with his food.

Asked by the judge the purpose of the elastic bands, Mr Lyons explained that a person wanting to commit suicide could not put the plastic bag on the top of his head with the elastic band.

Mr Lyons, who is accused of one murder and of aiding and abetting five suicides, was speaking at the end of a four-hour statement from the dock which brought several brushes with the judge. Several times Mr Justice Lawson asked him to come to the point.

Earlier, when the judge had asked him to help the jury over the allegations made against him, Mr Lyons had replied: "I'll help you all I can, sir, even with the plastic bags."

The judge replied: "I should not make a joke about it if I was in your position. This is not a funny case, you know, you are charged with murder."

On one occasion Mr Lyons, who claims he visited people's homes to give them spiritual healing, said he could prove what he said if there was some-

one in the courtroom who had any pain.

The judge replied with the reprimand: "This is not a far ground, Mr Lyons. I don't think it is a joke; I think it is a tragedy that you are not doing yourself justice. You are clowning half the time."

Mr Lyons stands accused with Lyons of what he was being told by his "puppet master", his name for his spiritual master, the judge said: "Tell your puppet master to get out of the court. We are not interested in what he says; we are interested in what you say, Mr Lyons."

When the judge was reading the transcript of a telephone conversation in which it is alleged that Lyons described his anger with a woman who changed her mind over suicide, Mr Lyons burst out laughing several times.

Afterwards he apologized and said he had intended no disrespect but had never imagined that that conversation would be heard in the High Court.

He told the judge that the whole conversation, in which he said the woman had wasted his time and that she was the only one to have disobeyed his commands, was "a complete lie-spill".

Mr Nicholas Reed, general secretary of EXIT, of Sanford Walk, New Cross, South-east London, who faces two charges of aiding and abetting suicide. They also both face three charges of conspiracy to aid and abet. All the charges are denied.

The hearing continues today.

Elderly and disabled 'the new lepers'

From John Hiscok, San Diego, Oct 22

Britain's elderly and disabled people are the country's new lepers, struggling to survive against pain, hopelessness and loneliness, doctors were told today.

Many of them have little money, live in poor, under-heated houses and are house-bound because they cannot use public transport, Professor Verna Wright, Professor of Rheumatology at Leeds University, told the British Medical Association's conference here.

"There are many features of chronic disability that simulate leprosy. It is common and has a profound impact on the sufferer, on the family and on the spouse," he said.

Many sufferers were confined to the "geriatric dustbin" while they were still mentally alert. The situation was made worse by the British system, which tended to lump all the disabled into one category rather than treat problems individually.

Most disabled people were living in poverty. A recent survey showed that more than half received less than £30 a week and many could not go out because they could not get on a bus.

Mr Wright said that many disabled people had emotional as well as physical difficulties and their marriages suffered under the strain. Simple things such as adequate heating and no stairs in the home could do a lot to ease the everyday difficulties.

The depressing economic climate was blamed by a general practitioner yesterday for the increasing number of tension headaches.

Almost two thirds of people who suffer from the headaches, which last for a few hours, have at least one a week. The frequency has increased from 10 to 60 per cent compared with four years ago, among those who say they suffer "fairly or very often".

Dr Herzel Creditor, a GP from Hampstead, north London, who presented a survey carried out earlier this summer among 153 randomly selected people who suffer from tension headaches, said people should look at the social circumstances in which the increase had taken place.

Unemployment is the phenomenon that is the major change in the past few years. It is the major problem confronting the nation and it is reasonable to assume that this may be one of the reasons for the increased frequency," he said.

The survey was carried out by a medical market research company Narkon, based in Basingstoke, Hampshire, as a sequel to one in 1977.

Hospital meals denial

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Depuzzing for the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, gave an assurance that in the search for savings in public spending the Government was not intending to introduce charges for meals provided to patients in hospitals.

"Such charges will not be introduced and there is no truth in that rumour," he told Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife Central.

But Mr Whitelaw significantly avoided giving any assurance about maintaining the real value of unemployment and other social security benefits.

"I am not confirming, or denying what I may be doing inside the Government," he told Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, who had

asked him if he had been appointed chairman of a Cabinet committee looking into the whole question of expenditure cuts.

"What is happening is, as happens with every government, that we are seeking to see in what areas we can restrain increases in public expenditure," he said.

Mr Foot pressed him further. It would be shocking and shameful, he said, if the Government, having helped to create mass unemployment, should now attack the unemployed themselves.

Mr Whitelaw retorted: "I have never been in the position of answering hypothetical questions with hypothetical answers."

CATTLE DISEASE BEATEN

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

Britain was yesterday declared free of cattle disease that can cause persistent fever in humans. Government veterinary officers reported that a 14-year campaign to rid the country of brucellosis was virtually complete after only 10 years.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said: "This represents a great achievement which will bring lasting benefits to cattle farmers and in public health terms to the community as a whole."

The disease can produce arthritis and brain lesions, and can affect male fertility, depending on the part of the body infected.

Governments have spent £217m on curbing the disease in Britain since control began in 1967.

It is not clear, bearing in mind the number of backbench Tory MPs who signed the original early-day motion condemning the cuts—83 out of 185—whether the Government will oppose or accept the motion next Monday. If Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Lord Privy Seal and chief foreign affairs spokesman, has come up with an acceptable compromise solution, then the whole matter may end peacefully.

However, the Government is bound once again to point out that the remaining services will have their signals strengthened.

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EXTERNAL BBC CUTS REVISED

By Kenneth Gosling

The Government is expected to announce a revised "package" of cuts when the Commons debates the BBC external services next Monday. Labour is to put on a three-line whip for the debate.

After announcing originally that the BBC would lose seven of its foreign language services and the subsidy to the transcription services, the Government has since suffered a defeat in the Lords on the issue; the Japanese have announced a strengthening of their own overseas broadcasts, and America has made diplomatic representations.

As originally worked out, the cuts were planned to save £3m a year; critics have called this a false economy and Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, described it last week as "peanuts".

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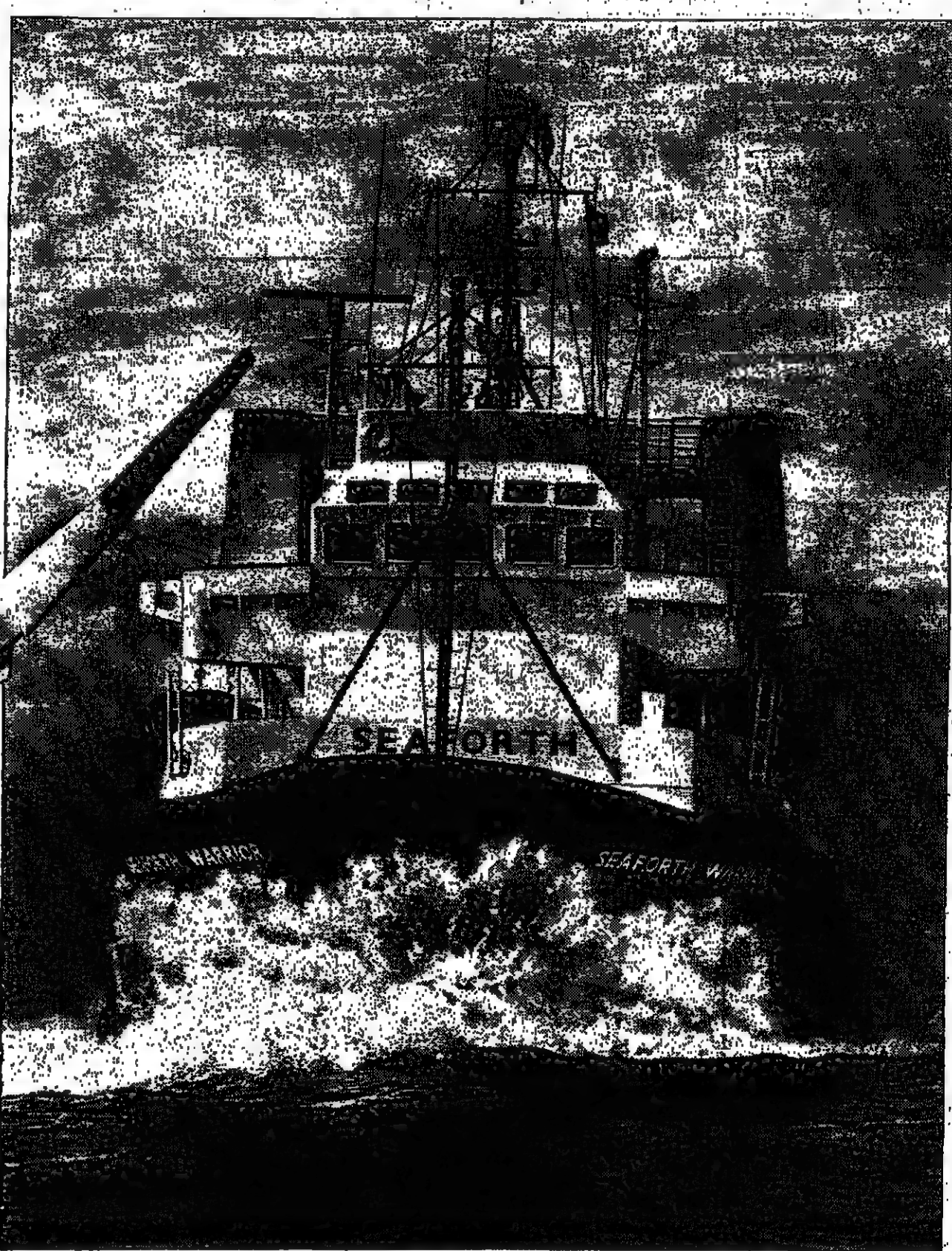
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IN June, 1978 Taylor Woodrow went to sea when we acquired an interest in Seaforth Maritime Ltd.

Based in Aberdeen, Seaforth is one of Britain's major offshore support and ocean contracting companies in the oil and gas industries. It is particularly involved with ships, engineering and land-based services.

Embarking on this rather unusual venture for a construction company was something we saw as a logical move. In fact it's all part of our commitment to the development of those new energy sources so vital to Britain's industry and homes.

That's where the sails will play a very important role. Taylor Woodrow, in close partnership with GEC and British Aerospace, is harnessing wind power to provide electricity.



Why a construction company which went to sea is raising sails on land.

Work will soon begin on the construction of a giant 'windmill' to generate power into the grid system on Orkney. With a height of 75 metres it has two rotating blades whose overall diameter is 60 metres. This one machine will eventually supply the islanders with electricity equivalent to the requirements of over one thousand homes.

Projects like Orkney will make Britain world leader in this form of alternative energy source, a field in which Taylor Woodrow has already

played a significant role in the development, civil engineering

and construction of six nuclear power stations.

Add to that our involvement in coal mining at home and abroad, oil and gas exploration, and an office in Houston, focal point of the world energy business: then you will have some idea of Taylor Woodrow's commitment in helping

to solve the world's pressing energy problems.

60 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, EXPERTISE AND TEAMWORK

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Legal tangle prevents payment to coma family

From Our Correspondent, Ludlow

A health authority is claiming it is being frustrated in its attempts to make payments to the wife of a part-time SAS soldier who has been in a coma for more than five months after a minor operation which went wrong.

Mr Ted Meredith, Hereford and Worcester area health authority's chairman, said yesterday that he was deeply concerned that Mrs Anne Woodhouse was in a situation where she had lost the family's wage earner and legal complications were preventing the authority from making a financial contribution to her.

Mrs Woodhouse, aged 24, is looking after her four small daughters and her comatose husband, Mr David Woodhouse, at the family home in Fownhope, near Hereford. Strenuous efforts by officials of Hereford County Hospital, where the mishap occurred, and the area health authority to hold an inquiry have failed because the Medical Defence Union, an insurance body representing doctors, has refused to allow its members to cooperate.

The health authority has been told by lawyers that any payments to Mrs Woodhouse before an inquiry could be interpreted later as an admission of blame. Mr Woodhouse suffered brain damage when he was apparently deprived of oxygen for 12 minutes during an appendicectomy operation.

Bishops decide that women can be ordained as deacons

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The bishops of the Church of England have decided to admit women to holy orders as deacons, and will take the first step next month towards the ordination of the first woman clergyman of the Church of England.

She will be entitled to be addressed as "the Reverend" and to conduct weddings, but not to officiate at Holy Communion.

On behalf of the House of Bishops, the Bishop of Portsmouth, the Right Rev A. M. Gordon, will propose to the General Synod at its November meeting that, in principle, "the order of deacons is an order within the historic threefold ministry open to women".

His motion asks for the drafting of suitable enabling legislation, including arrangements for the transfer of women who are already deaconesses.

Although the Church of England has been ordaining deaconesses since 1862, they are not technically "clergy" and thus remain in the category of lay people.

That distinction, derided by some as hair-splitting and overdue for abolition, is regarded as an important point in Anglo-Catholic circles opposed to the ordination of women to the priesthood, the second degree of holy orders.

Four Church of Wales clergymen resigned recently in response to the Anglican church's decision to ordain

women as deacons, stating that it was a matter of principle. They pointed out that the argument used by opponents of women priests, that the Anglican Communion should not make fundamental changes to holy orders which put it out of step with the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, applies as much to deacons as to priests.

The "debate" on women deacons, it is thought by those who arrange the synod's business, will therefore provide an arena for shadow boxing on the larger issue.

The agenda for the synod, which will be shorter than usual, includes debates on industrial relations, interfaith relations, disarmament, and the fees for ecclesiastical lawyers.

SAFETY CHECKS AT HARWELL

An internal board of inquiry set up after last year's leak of radioactive material from the Harwell atomic research centre has called for stricter maintenance and inspection procedures. The recommendations have been accepted.

Only negligible amounts of radioactivity escaped from the damaged drains of a laboratory, the report says. It calls for a review of procedures for handling active laboratory wastes and tighter internal reporting.



Endless research: Dr Ilya Gershevitch, who praised the university's academic courage

A champion in the cause of obscurity

Dr Ilya Gershevitch, aged 66, the senior don who has taught only 16 undergraduates during the last 33 years, is pleased and proud that Cambridge University has retained his subject, Iranian studies, on the syllabus (Our Cambridge Correspondent writes).

The Council of the Senate had wanted to abolish the course because Dr Gershevitch retires as reader in Iranian Studies next year. The Regent House, the governing

body, has now voted to keep the subject, which involves the study of seven Iranian languages, six ancient and one modern.

Dr Gershevitch has one undergraduate to teach this term, the first to apply to read Iranian studies for more than 10 years. He said: "When I am not teaching I am busy researching. There is a great deal of virgin soil in the subject and there is endless research still to be done."

Of the 16 who had taken the

tripos since Dr Gershevitch was appointed in 1948, seven have proceeded to university posts, three chairs and four lectureships, and three are in high academic positions abroad.

Dr Gershevitch said: "Cambridge is superbly equipped to teach the subject and after all my years here I found it hardly believable that the university wanted to abolish it. Had it been removed from the syllabus it could have disappeared for at least 200 years."

Leading article, page 15

Drug addict served on two nuclear submarines

A drug addict served on two of Britain's nuclear-powered submarines, a court martial was told yesterday. Able Seaman David Brough's addiction to drugs such as heroin, cocaine and LSD went unnoticed by his superiors.

After 15 months in the Royal Navy, AB Brough, aged 23, a sonar operator, was finally brought before doctors, but was classified as an alcoholic, and it was not until after his arrest five months later that his dependence on drugs was discovered.

The court at Devonport heard that AB Brough was addicted to "speed" (amphetamine sulphate) and suffered "flashback" effects while operating sonar gear. He also admitted being "stoned" (drugged) when he went on board the nuclear-powered submarine Valiant. He pleaded guilty to six specimen charges of using controlled drugs and two of possession. AB Brough, from the Isle of Man, was dismissed the service and ordered to be detained for four months in a military corrective training centre.

Lieutenant-Commander David Lancaster, for the prosecution, said AB Brough, who joined the Navy in October 1979, was "a regular drug abuser". The charges reflected the wide range of drugs he took throughout his Navy career, including opium on board the nuclear-powered submarine Valiant and Courageous and the diesel-powered Oclicot.

Crown case misleading, murder trial told

—The Crown case in the past seven days of the Down's syndrome trial has been "inaccurate and misleading", a leading prosecution witness admitted yesterday.

Professor Alan Usher who performed the post-mortem examination on the baby, John Pearson, alleged to have been killed by Dr Leonard Arthur, agreed that the prosecution's position had been that the baby was healthy when born.

During an adjournment at Leicester Crown Court on Wednesday he saw for the first time slides, later projected in court, which showed that the baby had brain and lung damage at birth; but he told Mr George Carman, QC, for the defence yesterday, that "Dr Arthur's regime" would have hastened the end.

He did not alter his opinion that death had come after the fatal poisoning by the drug, DF118.

At the end of the hearing yesterday Mr Justice Farquharson sent the jury home until Monday. He will hear defence submissions today. Dr Arthur, aged 55, a consultant paediatrician, of Royal Oak Cottage, Church Broughton, Derbyshire, pleads not guilty to murdering the baby.

The prosecution has alleged that the baby, who died at the age of three days in July last year at Derby City Hospital, was given the drug, DF118, which suppressed his appetite and impaired his breathing. The treatment was designed to kill the baby after he had been rejected by his parents, the Crown said.

When Mr Carman asked Professor Usher yesterday if the prosecution had presented a case that the baby was healthy when born, he replied: "Yes. I think that is because the Crown were not aware of the situation."

He agreed with Mr Carman that for the past seven days the Crown's position was "inaccurate and misleading" in important respects. Professor Usher said he knew of allegations of drug overdoses when he performed the post-mortem, but denied not approaching it with an open mind.

He disputed Mr Carman's claim that there was not one shred of evidence from the post-mortem to show the drug had played a part in the death. The professor said there were signs of lung failure, adding: "I think I would claim to have a certain amount of expertise on fatal poisoning, and this is a fatal poisoning."

MILITANT RABBI BARRED

By our Foreign Staff

Rabbi Meir Kahane, the militant Jewish nationalist, was barred from entering Britain yesterday.

A Home Office spokesman said that the American-born Rabbi's presence would not be conducive to the public good and he was put on an airliner to New York shortly after arriving at Heathrow airport from Tel Aviv.

Rabbi Kahane, aged 40, has been detained several times in Israel and accused of "provoking violent confrontations" between Israelis and Arabs on the West Bank.

When his aircraft landed at Heathrow it was met by seven immigration officials and Home Office men, with three armed uniformed police officers. The Rabbi was driven to an immigration office where he was questioned.

The Rabbi, who intended to stay three days in Britain and address a meeting at Golders Green, in London, last night, said at the airport that it was outrageous that he should be barred from a purely private visit.

"My being barred shows clearly the bias of the British Government against the state of Israel and its citizens", he added.

DEATH BOAT CAPTAIN 'PANICKED'

From Our Correspondent Swansea

The captain of a fishing boat panicked as she sank during an angling competition, an inquest at Swansea was told yesterday. Two anglers were drowned.

Mr Robert Smith, of Cardiff, whose wife died, said Mr Terence McBride, the captain, "went to pieces" as his boat, the Orion, went down off the Gower coast last July.

Mr Royston Davies, health and safety enforcement officer for Swansea, said that the Orion, which sank with 10 anglers on board was not licensed to carry passengers. He said Mr McBride also did not have a boatman's licence.

Mr McBride, of Morriston, Swansea, told the inquest that the Orion sank so quickly he had time to hand out only one or two lifejackets.

Mr McBride, who was trapped in a cabin, survived in an air pocket 80ft below the surface until a window broke and he was sucked out.

The coroner said that the boat was obviously under-crowded. He recorded verdicts of misadventure on Mrs Smith and the second victim, Mr Hugh Pickering, of Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan.

Dentist 'spoke of unwise act

From our correspondent, Nottingham

Det Inspector Bruce Foster giving evidence yesterday in the case in which a dentist is alleged to have raped a girl aged 19, said that the dentist told police that after the nurse and receptionist had gone the girl put her arms round his neck while she was in the dentist's chair.

He said the dentist, aged 28, told officers in an interview: "She was making noises and I thought 'Hello, I will be all right here'. I told her to carry on. She helped me take her jeans down. I took my trousers off, and that was it. I genuinely thought she fancied me. I thought I had a mistress there."

He allegedly said he was unable to complete sex in the dentist's chair because he knew the cleaner was working outside.

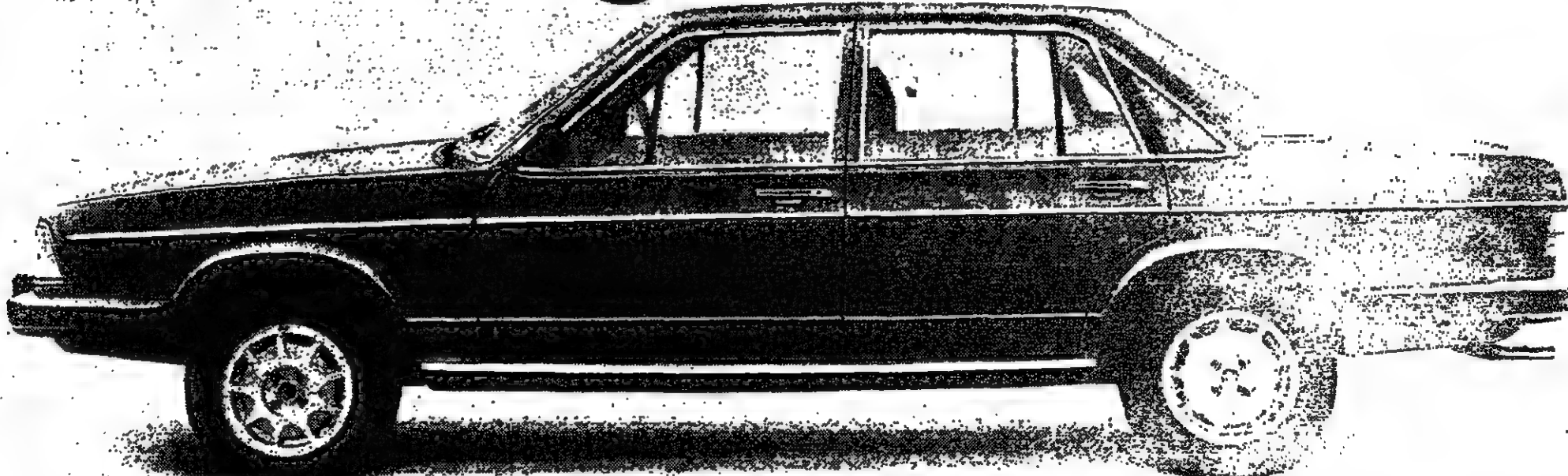
Inspector Foster said the dentist told him he gave the girl a valium injection when he visited her the next day at her home. "She screamed and I realized she was shamming."

"Yes, I got involved and I had intercourse with her. But it was with her consent. She just grabbed me. I took my trousers off and got on top of her. I made a mistake by going to her house, and it just happened. But she was in complete control of her faculties, believe me."

"I acted unwisely but I am not guilty of rape. My motives in the first place were purely professional."

The inspector said that the dentist told him he suspected the girl was trying to blackmail him. "It was obvious to me what she was up to."

If not, why not?



	Retail Price	Max Speed mph	Acceleration 0-60 m/s	Overall mpg	Boot Capacity (cu ft)	Power Steering
Audi 100 CL	£7,192	110	11.7	26	22.7	Standard
Ford Granada 2.3L	£8,000	104	11.2	21	14.3	Standard
Rover 2300	£7,450	110	12.1	23	12.3/44*	£171
Talbot Tagora 2.2GL	£7,296	110	12.3	25	15.1	£249

for the size of its boot should unquestionably buy the Audi.

A glance at the table above may prompt you to ask why all those Ford, Rover and Talbot drivers are driving Fords, Rovers and Talbots.

It can't be price.

The Audi 100 CL undercuts the renowned Ford Granada 2.3L, for example, by some £800.

Is it performance, then?

The Audi is equal first on top speed, and second only to the Granada (and only by 1/2 sec) in terms of acceleration.

Perhaps people feel that its high performance means high fuel consumption. Yet according to 'What Car?', none of its rivals equals the Audi's economy.

And even those rare few who buy a car

The Audi also has power steering as standard, unlike two of its competitors.

And when to these bald statistics, one adds the fact that all Audis are renowned for their low running costs, reliability and durability (backed by a six-year warranty against rusting through from the inside), one begins to wonder why everyone is not driving one.

If you're currently undecided between the four fine cars we've been talking about, why not book a test drive in the 100 CL with your Audi dealer?

It's probably all you need to help you make your mind up.

Audi The Audi 100 CL

OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE AUDI 100 CL ARE: CONSTANT 56MPG (49.4 LITRES/100KM), CONSTANT 27MPG (54.4 LITRES/100KM), URBAN 34MPG (64.2 LITRES/100KM). *FIGURES FOR THE AUDI 100 CL WITH 1.8L ENGINE. FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: AUDI MARKETING DEPARTMENT, VAG (UK) LTD, KINGSWOOD, 1, YEOVING DRIVE, BLAKEHART, MILTON KEYNES, MK14 6JF. FLEET, HIRE, RENTAL, EXPORT AND IMPORT DEPT. 99, 5, ALFRED STREET, LONDON, EC3A 3DP.

Anyone who thinks we aren't trying to help industry hasn't been reading the papers.

We'll back you all the way to the year 2000.



The Midland is always ready to discuss long-term financing for business.

The period can be anything from 10-20 years, the amount anything from £20,000 to £500,000 and the interest rate can be fixed at the outset.

It's especially helpful for medium and smaller businesses contemplating expansion.

Things like new premises, plant extensions, acquisitions and other major investments.

So come and talk to the Midland.

We'll listen very carefully.

And, once you're a Midland Bank customer, we'll do everything we can to help you grow.

Right up to the year 2000.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Tuesday, 1st July 1980

Money for the next step forward.

If your business is considering an important step forward, a Midland Venture Loan might be exactly right for you.

You can borrow from £5,000 to £250,000 on a secured basis over 1 to 10 years. The terms are very competitive and in

some cases you need pay only the interest on the loan during the first two years—a real help to cash flow.

Venture Loans can be used for buying or modifying premises, purchasing plant or machinery, and other business developments.

So if you're about to make a major move and you need a little help, come and talk to the Midland about a Venture Loan.

We'll listen very carefully.

And, once you're a Midland Bank customer, we'll do everything we can to help.

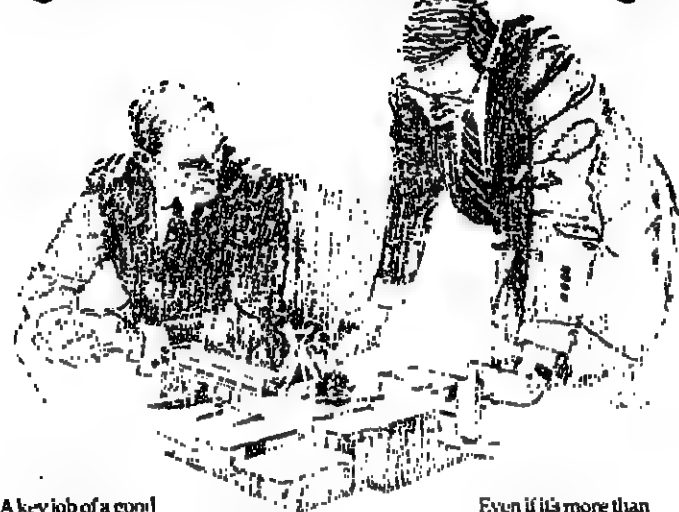
Because there's nothing we like better than helping to make a good idea work.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Thursday, 3rd July 1980

Let's help you raise some money.



A key job of a good business bank is to help sound business customers raise money.

This can be a simple overdraft.

Or a conventional short, medium or long term loan.

But it might be a totally different way

of raising money.

Installment finance, leasing.

Or equity finance.

Whatever it takes, if the basic business idea is sound, we'll work out the best possible financial package and deliver it.

Even if it's more than you thought you needed. After all, there's no point in spoiling the ship for a ha'porth of finance.

Let's talk.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Wednesday, 17th June 1981

Listening to small businesses is big business at the Midland.



Running an independent business can be quite nerve-racking without someone to talk to.

At the Midland we're great listeners, so drop in for a chat.

We can offer expert help. And, in suitable cases, services which include Venture and Long Term Loans, equity finance and overdraft facilities.

What's more, in the case of export finance, the Midland has a scheme for companies with an export turnover of £250,000, or less, who don't wish to use normal ECED insurance.

There is also our Independent Business Banking Unit that's designed to co-ordinate services offered to small businesses.

So, come and talk to us.

We've a good ear because we hope that one day your small business won't be quite so small.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Wednesday, 8th October 1980

See how we respond.



1 How hard is it to get a 20 year loan?

2 Would EEC grants or loans be available for my new factory?

3 I'm planning to expand my business. What types of finance are available?

4 Should I review my will now that I'm running my own business?

5 I'd like to stop paying my employees in cash. How do I pay through a bank?

6 Are there advantages in asking for a loan in foreign currency rather than sterling?

7 The best way to judge a bank is to see how well it responds. We're ready when you are.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Tuesday, 14th July 1981

Let's get things moving.

1 How can I improve my cash flow?

2 Can I get extra share capital and retain my independence?

3 I want to open another shop.

4 My Capital Transfer Tax planning needs some help.

5 I'm planning to start a new business.

6 Can we pay you back over as long as 20 years?

At the Midland we listen to any sound business idea.

Carefully.

Intelligently.

Responsively.

And we act very quickly indeed.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Monday, 8th June 1981

Talk about it.

1 Documentary Credits confuse me.

2 Will you invest in my business?

3 I need a better storage system.

4 I want to open another shop.

5 My Capital Transfer Tax planning needs some help.

6 I'm planning to start a new business.

7 I need a new machine.

8 I'm thinking of setting up a trust fund.

9 Can I get a 20-year loan?

At the Midland we listen to any sound business idea.

Carefully. Intelligently.

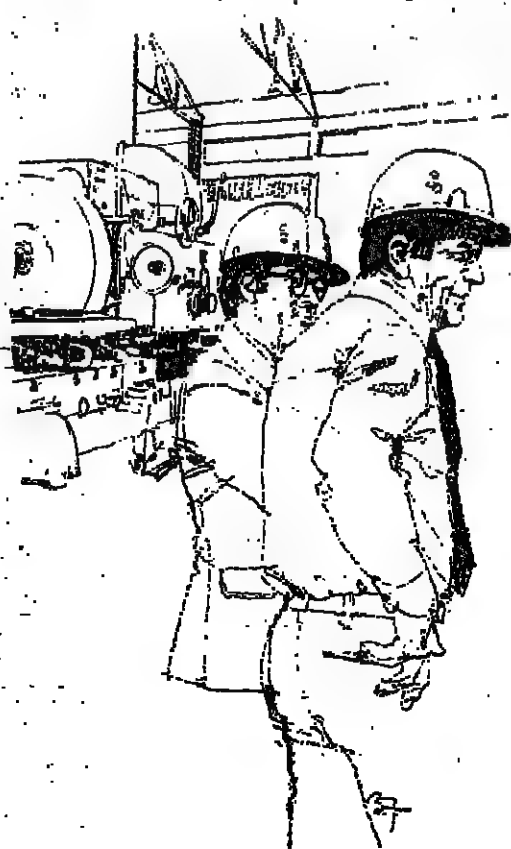
Responsively. And we act very quickly indeed.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Sunday, 29th June 1980

What do you need?



1 Can my repayments be tailored to the earning power of my new plant?

2 My company needs advice on employee pension plans.

3 Can I get some help from the Midland in Tokyo?

4 We're tendering for a major contract and may need a performance bond.

5 I want a better way to finance my car fleet.

6 Can you act as my company's registrar?

7 Is installment finance better than leasing?

At the Midland our aim is to help our customers get what they need.

So let's talk.

You'll find we respond as intelligently as we listen.

Midland

Come and talk to the listening bank

First appeared Friday, 12th June 1981

Midland
Come and talk to the listening bank

Midland Bank Limited

IMF sets tough conditions to dollar aid for Sudan

From Nicholas Worrall, Khartoum, Oct 22

At Said Mahmoud's emporium in central Khartoum you can buy a colour TV set and thus enlist in the tiny elite who have adopted Western living standards while almost 18 million Sudanese are ensured no regular water supply and face an eternal struggle to find their daily food.

"It's a classic Third World case", one Western diplomat told me here this week while a high-powered team from the International Monetary Fund was seeking to persuade the Sudanese Government to swallow bitter economic medicine in return for a further injection of badly needed American dollars.

Half a century ago the British, who ruled here in condominium with Egypt, set Sudan up with a huge cotton-growing scheme at Gezira between the Blue and White Niles. Since then Gezira has been the country's leading earner of foreign exchange (cotton and groundnuts earn 70 per cent of export money) with an annual production of about a million bales, but this has been falling steadily.

This year the yield will drop below 400,000 bales and will be sent onto a world market where prices are depressed. The return will not even cover the Sudanese fuel bill, which

in the past eight years has risen from £10m to almost £275m. Along with fuel, everything Sudan needs for continued food and export agricultural production has risen to prohibitive levels — fertilizers, insecticides, machinery, vehicles and spare parts.

Hospitable, even humorous and generous almost to incipient bankruptcy, the people of Africa's largest country are tightly wedged beneath a world economy whose vagaries can only be the work of Allah. Even more destructive is the daily exodus of skilled Sudanese artisans to Arab countries that pay them five times their home wages. The practice is encouraged at present because of the approximately £200m which are sent home to Sudan.

There is a humorous side. The story is told here of a Saudi Arabian Ambassador whose plumbing failed and who could not find an expert. He called home to Riyadh and a plumber was sent out on the next aircraft. He was a Sudanese.

Over the years Sudan has slid into enormous debt. The total is now believed to be above £2 billion, and still the country is forced to borrow. The IMF is here to settle conditions for the third stage

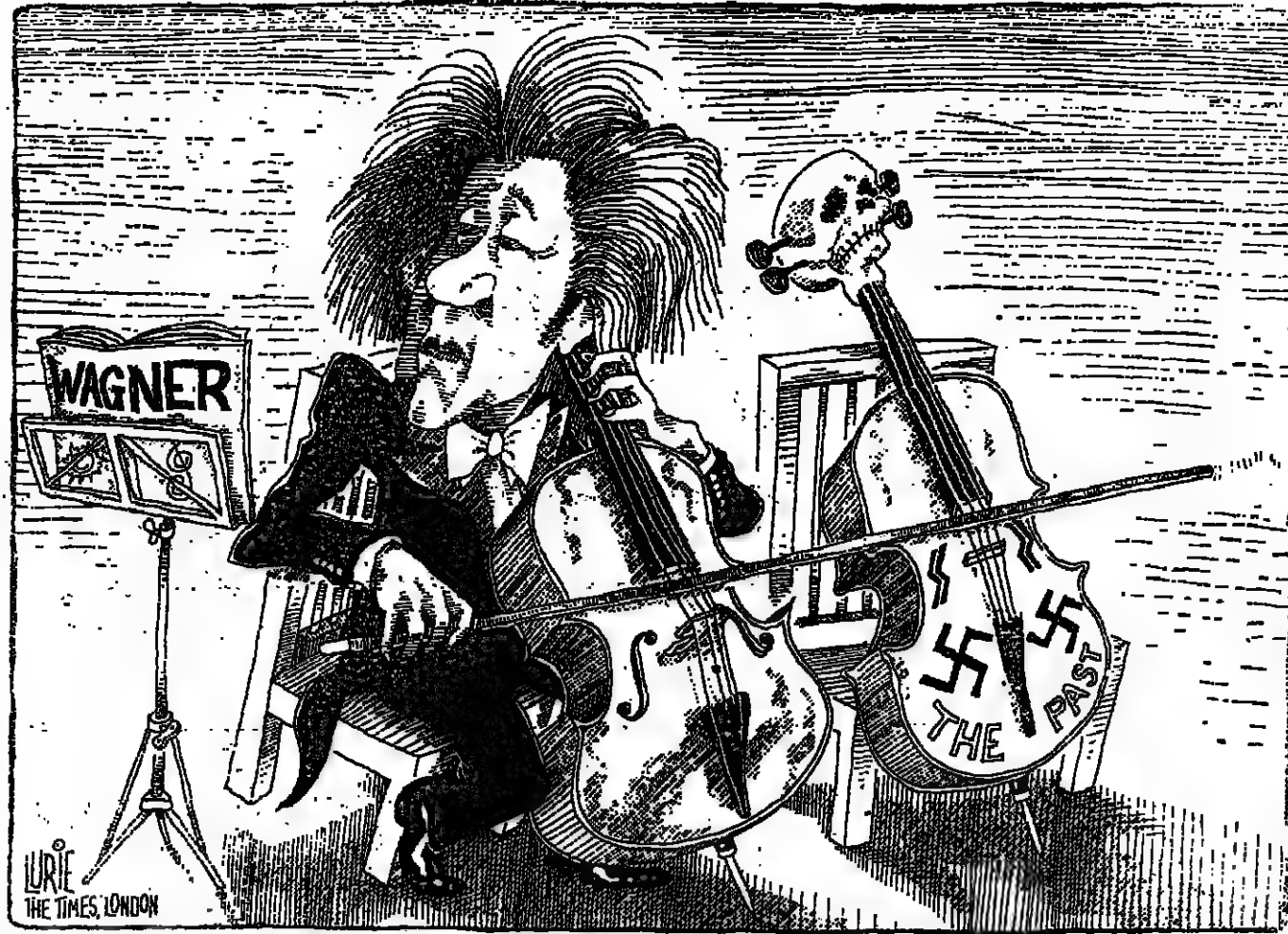
of a three-year credit of £270m but no cheques will be drawn until President Gaafar Nimer's Government takes action it knows could provoke severe internal strife even among the tolerant Sudanese.

The Sudan pound is linked to the United States dollar, but at three different rates of exchange. The official rate is 50 pence, half a Sudan pound. The "tourist rate" is 80 pence and there is also a "street rate" which varies from day to day.

The IMF wants the rates unified at about 80 pence, but it is feared the effect of this would be an immediate price increase of some 60 per cent on Government-subsidized commodities like petrol, wheat, sugar and milk powder, all of which, one diplomat said, are "highly politically sensitive".

While the Sudanese economy is expected to show an overall deficit this year of about £30m, no one seems able to total the millions of dollars in aid currently being poured into the country.

Disease and ignorance are widespread. But (tomorrow) is a common expression in Sudan, as is *Insh'Allah* (if God will it). It is their faith and unlimited good nature that keep the Sudanese going.



Zimbabwe plunges into the red

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Oct 22

The strike by nurses in Zimbabwe continued today spreading to 12 cities and towns, but striking teachers backed away from a confrontation with the Government. In For Victoria, south of here, 72 demonstrating nurses were arrested.

The latest arrests, which bring to more than 1,000 the number held this week, coincided with gloomy trade figures which showed the balance of payments for the half year to July plunging \$227.6m (about £21m) into the red from a surplus of \$24m for the same period last year.

The fact that there has been such a dismal economic news in the wings may account for the Government's tough handling of both strikes. Other groups in the public sector are also disgruntled with the way their

salaries have dropped behind those of the private sector and the authorities are facing a wave of dissatisfaction over the rising cost of living.

In a strongly-worded warning Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said yesterday that if the strikes went on the nurses and teachers would be made to feel the kind of hardship suffered by guerrillas and peasants during the war by being as "thrown into the bush for two or three months".

Today the teachers again defied a threat to arrest them if they demonstrated, but a meeting in Salisbury was attended by less than a fifth of the strikers and they gathered only long enough to give a list of their demands and announce that they would return to work tomorrow while it was considered.

Of the 195 teachers arrested in Gwelo yesterday, one was British and one Australian. Both were remanded out of custody.

Economic experts believe that the trade figures are not as bad as they may appear. They point to the fact that the price of gold — Zimbabwe's main foreign currency earner — has dropped, as have the prices for other mineral exports.

Imports on the other hand, have increased.

Mr Mugabe has warned Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister, he would be arrested and thrown into prison if he collaborated with South Africa. *The Herald* daily newspaper reported today.

Apology by Thorn on racist poem

From Ian Murray Brussels, October 22 — Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission has apologized for the "base" racist sentiments expressed in a poem published in the September issue of the Commission's Bulletin. The poem, which is sent out to youth publications in West Germany.

Mr Thorn told a group of 15 European MPs who wrote to him expressing their "astonishment and indignation" at what they felt was "the crudest possible racism", that printing the poem was a mistake.

He shared the MPs' views and had demanded an "unequivocal rectification" including publication of his letter by the news sheet.

The poem was supposedly a letter written by a Turkish immigrant worker to his wife back home. Everything was going, marvelously, it said. Because he had been put out of work and was therefore able to draw the dole.

This meant that it was possible to sleep all day and play cards all night.

Bomb near S. African oil plant

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, Oct 22

A bomb exploded today near the Sasol oil-from-coal plant being built at Secunda, in the eastern Transvaal.

A Sasol spokesman blamed it on a sabotage attempt and said it had slightly damaged a water pipeline and conveyor belt outside the security area. Production was not affected and nobody was injured.

Sabotage is also suspected as the cause of an explosion at an electricity sub-station near the gold mining town of Evander, in the eastern Transvaal, last night. A transformer was damaged and part of the town was without power for some time.

According to General Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, incidents of sabotage have increased by 200 per cent in the past six months. He has accused Zimbabwe and Zambia of assisting the outlawed African National Congress and Pan-Africanist Congress in opening a "second front" against South Africa.

On June last year 1000 mines damaged installations at Secunda and Sabulung, about 60 miles south of Johannesburg. — Reuters.

U.S. PROPOSES MORE SECRECY

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Oct 22

The Reagan Administration has drafted proposals to make it easier to classify documents as secret.

The draft would eliminate the provision that instructs officials to balance public interest against damage to national security when assessing whether information should be released.

The draft, which is still being discussed, is part of an attempt by the Administration to tighten security and restrict certain information. Attempts are being made to limit the Freedom of Information Act.

Hardliner is rejected as Iran's Premier

Tehran, Oct 22 — Members of Iran's Majlis (Parliament) today surprisingly rejected the nomination of Mr Ali Akbar Velayati as Iran's next Prime Minister by 80 votes to 74, with 38 abstentions.

Some members welcomed the vote as a sign that the Majlis was not completely under the domination of the ruling Islamic Republic Party. Mr Velayati, aged 36, was chosen three days ago by President Ali Khamenei to replace Ayatollah Mohammad Jazani Mahdavi-Kani, a moderate cleric who resigned unexpectedly on October 15.

Mr Velayati qualified as a doctor in the United States. Unlike most of the four earlier Prime Ministers since the Revolution in 1979 he did not spend time in prison under the Shah.

President Khamenei said later that he would send a new list of candidates to the Majlis on Sunday. The parliament had Mr Velayati's nomination because it was "unacquainted" with him.

The President did not say if he would repeat Mr Velayati's nomination. "I am still convinced that Mr Velayati is a competent and valuable person," he told the newspaper *Keyhan*. The parliamentary rejection was "one of the most important acts by Parliament up to now".

Ayatollah Khomeini said the President would propose Mr Hossein Mousavi, the fundamentalist education Minister, and Mr Mohammad Ghazali, the Oil Minister.

No public debate preceded the vote. Mr Velayati considered a hardline advocate of fundamentalist policies, advocated centralization on Iran's intelligence network to improve security, called for the export of the Iranian revolution, and insisted vaguely on redistribution of "properties", when he addressed last Friday's Tehran prayers session.

Some observers said the last point could have prompted the split, since a hardline movement within the ruling party has been pushing for a more radical redistribution of agricultural lands than most clergy leaders.

Practically unknown to the Iranian public, Mr Velayati has had no administrative experience and no training in economics. His nomination surprised observers.

An Islamic Republic party MP from Tehran, he has close ties with the circle surrounding Ayatollah Khomeini. He began clandestine political activities during the 1963-65 — AFP and Reuters.

BRITISH TROOPS ARE ACCUSED

Pamiers, France, Oct 22 — British paratroopers on manoeuvres here were today charged with stealing from three parked vehicles, police said.

Four others, all of the Third Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, are still being held for questioning about a brawl last Sunday in which an Arab was killed. Three others who were questioned yesterday were released this morning.

Mr Schick Djelbi, aged 29, a French national born in Algeria, died from a fractured skull after being beaten up. A company of the Third Battalion has been here for two weeks on manoeuvres.

Polling at UN starts next week

From Michael Leapman, New York, Oct 22

Members of the United Nations Security Council will meet in New York on Tuesday to begin voting for a Secretary-General of the United Nations to take office in January.

Several rounds of balloting may be needed and the process could last several days. The decision to start next week was taken at an informal meeting of council members yesterday.

Dr Kar Waldheim, the present holder, is the first to seek a third five-year term. Until recently he was regarded as almost certain to win, despite his reputation for dilution, but in the intense speculation that has preoccupied delegates here for months doubts are beginning to emerge.

To win a candidate must receive at least nine favourable votes from the 15 council members and must avoid the veto of any of the five permanent members. The voting is theoretically secret, but word on who votes for whom generally emerges quickly.

Dr Waldheim will certainly be voted by the Chinese in the initial rounds, as he was in 1976. The Chinese believe the Secretary-General should come from a Third World country. What happens next in the balloting will depend on how tenuously they are prepared to stick to their veto.

If it becomes clear that they will not back down this time, then the focus will switch to their preferred candidate, Mr Salim Salim of Tanzania, who has been endorsed by more than half the United Nations membership. A veto against him could come from the Russians, because of his Chinese links, or the Americans and British, suspicious of his radical views.

The Russians might not in the end feel able to veto a man with such wide Third World support, because of the harm it would do to their image as the protectors of the underprivileged.

Speculation over how the United States would react to Mr Salim has produced a theory that has been dubbed "double deviancy".

It postulates that the Americans might welcome Mr Salim because, if they plan to ignore or devalue the United Nations as an element in their foreign policy, it will be easier to do so if the organization is headed by a man whose view of the world differs so sharply from theirs.

In the end, it might be the British who would veto Mr Salim, mainly because of fears of what his victory would do to the fragile and long-drawn-out negotiations over independence for Namibia.

In the event of a deadlock, the most likely compromise candidate is Señor Carlos Ortiz de Rosas of Argentina, or falling him another Latin American. No secretary-general has come from Africa or Latin America.

Ecevit charged for attack on military rulers

Ankara, Oct 22 — Turkey's military authorities have started legal proceedings against Mr Bulent Ecevit, former prime minister, after he made a statement criticizing the military rulers. Ankara's martial law prosecutor said today.

Colonel Nurettin Soyer said an indictment had been sent to a martial law court. Mr Ecevit, who was questioned by the military authorities for more than an hour yesterday, was charged with violating a decree issued by the ruling Junta last June, which barred former politicians from making public political statements.

Sources close to the martial law authorities said the prosecutor was demanding a prison term of between three months and one year for Mr Ecevit, although Colonel Soyer did not confirm this.

Mr Ecevit issued a statement to the state broadcasting corporation on Monday, stating his opposition to the military administration which has ruled Turkey since the coup 13 months ago.

It was the first case brought against Mr Ecevit by the military, although he is facing a number of charges under civilian law relating to political activity before the coup. — Reuters.

A training for life

Running a home and looking after yourself seems easy when you learn how from parents. But to a child who has grown up in residential care it can come as a surprise and very frightening step to help us we small children whose our teenagers can learn how to help their own lives with support and guidance from staff in budgeting and housekeeping. The way when they have to go out on their own they can do so in confidence. Help us to help them. Send a donation to:

Children's Trust, Church of England, Children's Society, Room 20, 100, Old Town Hall, Northampton Road, London SE1 4AD. National Giro 8200, Account No 514-0015.

US claims EEC backing for Sinai force

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Oct 22

Members of the European Community have agreed in principle to join the peace-keeping force to patrol the Sinai after Israeli withdrawal, a senior State Department official said yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Veliotis, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, told the House of Representatives foreign affairs committee that each member country would decide how and whether to implement the general resolve. He was optimistic several

European countries would participate. France, Italy and Britain were showing encouraging interest, he said. Holland and Canada were exploring the possibility of participating, and Australia was prepared to join if the Europeans did, but no agreement had been received.

So far only Fiji, Uruguay and Colombia have formally agreed to take part in the force for which the United States is prepared to contribute 1,000 troops. The multinational force is seen as an essential ingredient of the Middle East peace process after the planned Israeli

withdrawal in April, under the Camp David agreements.

British response: A Foreign Office spokesman said in London that no decision had been taken on joining the peacekeeping force, but any British contribution would be modest. One report has suggested the British troops would be drawn from Cyprus.

Melbourne: The Federal Cabinet decided today to commit a squadron of Royal Australian Air Force helicopters and transport aircraft to serve for up to two years in the Sinai (Douglas Aiton writes).

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Index-linked National Savings Certificates

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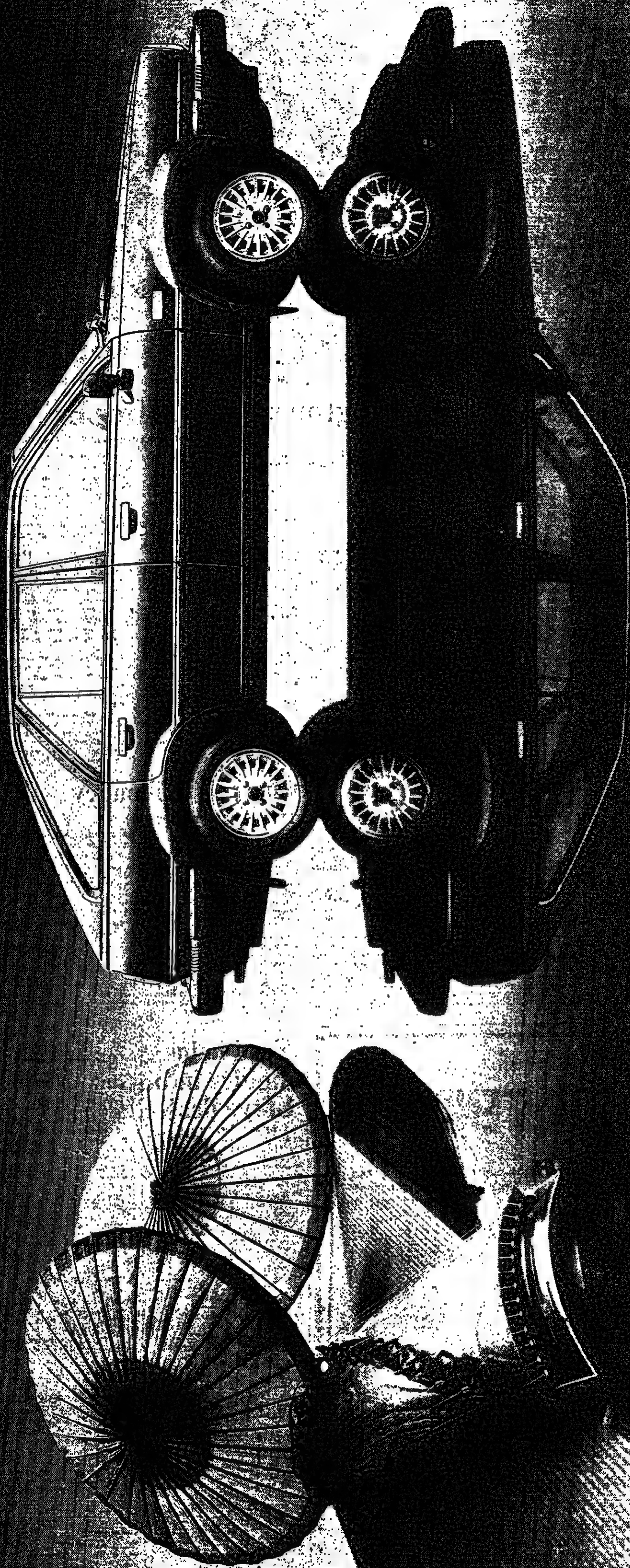
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Solidarity ready for token strike as protests spread

From Dena Trevisan, Warsaw, Oct 22

With strikes and protests spreading spontaneously, leaders of the independent Solidarity trade union met today to decide on action in response to what is seen as an increasing official menace to the union. Union protest demonstrations in Katowice and Wrocław broke out after police in these towns tried to stop the distribution of union material and thus heightening the union's sense of tension.

The union's national commission meeting in Gdansk decided to pass a firm resolution over what is regarded as provocation intended to intimidate its members, but there were differences over how far to go. Union moderates proposed an hour's general strike throughout the country over the arrests.

The radicals wanted to declare a state of danger for the union, a kind of alarm signal which would entail longer, tougher and more spectacular protest action. They also argued that the union's best defence would be to assume the role of a political party to prevent its scope of activity being strangled little by little.

The two incidents occurred under almost identical circumstances, both provoked when the police tried to stop the distribution of union papers and bulletins which Solidarity officials claim have been disseminated freely in both towns hitherto.

In Wrocław last night, police tried to stop the sale of Solidarity union bulletins from a van parked in the centre of the town. Three union activists were then arrested for circulating what the newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* claimed were leaflets addressed to Polish soldiers and containing subversive contents.

The unionists have bluntly denied this, and crowds gathered quickly in protest and moved on to police headquarters demanding that the unionists be released. The crowd dispersed without incident later last night in response to the union leaders' appeal but public transport came to a standstill in protest.

The authorities banned public gatherings and the sale of alcohol, suggesting that they will "firmly oppose" lawlessness and public disobedience, as last week's party central committee meeting resolved.

Sometimes it appears as if tension is artificially and delib-

erately created with each side testing and probing the other's response.

A representative from Lodz accused the authorities of provoking incidents while they are pretending to negotiate with the union.

Protest actions, strikes, and strike alerts are reported from all across the country. The reasons include opposition to the party's professed intent to secure parliamentary approval for the suspension of the right to strike.

The many reports in the mass media suggest that the authorities are deliberately dramatizing the already dramatic situation in the hope of striking the right public response. But already the council of economic reform, the Government body which met today presided over by the Prime Minister, found that the propaganda relayed by mass media was having just the opposite effect, and was undermining the authorities' credibility.

A ban on strikes, the council said, would not improve the situation. Rather, a way should be sought to involve the union in decision making and sharing of responsibilities.

But in at least three regions there is renewed pressure for dismissal of local administration officials, and in Zielona Gora a general strike involving about 70,000 people began this morning as a protest over the dismissal of one member of the union.

In some parts of the country farmers, now have joined urban protesters over food shortages.

A fierce political battle is being fought behind the scenes, and on its outcome the future depends. It may determine whether General Wojciech Jaruzelski can secure a national consensus for his political programme.

The general, who on his election to the head of the Polish Communist party last week announced that he will propose a reshuffle in the ruling Politburo when the central committee meets next week, saw the Polish prime minister, Archbishop Glempa yesterday.

The prime minister has just returned from the Vatican where he met the Pope. A brief official communiqué implied that General Jaruzelski may have secured the prime minister's support. Soon afterwards Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, returned from his visit to France.

Chess match slows after Karpov changes opening

Mirano, Oct 22—Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world champion, playing white, surprised experts today when he began the eighth game of his title defence with a Giuoco Piano Italian opening instead of his invariable Ruy Lopez.

Grandmasters here to watch the delayed game said they could not remember the 30-year-old champion ever having opened with anything but a Ruy Lopez and they speculated that the unexpected win by Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger in the sixth game had dissuaded Karpov from opening in his usual way.

Both players were treading unfamiliar ground as a result of the unconventional start and play was slow, they said. Karpov postponed today's game from last Monday because he was tired, according to his

aid. He leads the series by three games to one.

The following are the first 10 moves:

White: Karpov, Black: Korchnoi

1. P-K4	P-K4
2. K-K3	K-K3
3. B-B4	B-B4
4. P-B3	P-B3
5. P-C3	P-C3
6. Q-C2	Q-C2
7. B-K3	B-K3
8. P-K3	P-K3
9. B-B2	B-B2
10. P-B2	P-B2

ISRAELI CHOSEN

Tel Aviv—An Israeli expert is to run the computer controlled irrigation equipment on the late President Sadat's farm at his village of Mit Abul Kurn, the newspaper *Maariv* said today.



Mrs Thatcher bows after inspecting the honour guard, after arriving at Cancun.

Carrington signals softer British line on Third World aid

From Melvyn Westlake and Nicholas Ashford, Cancun, Mexico, Oct 22

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, appeared to signal a new and more positive phase in the Government's relations with the Third World when he arrived here with Mrs Margaret Thatcher for the 22-nation summit which began today.

In language very different from that used by ministers when the Brandt Commission report was published last year, he said that it was of great importance to reduce the disparity of wealth between rich and poor countries. It was not only morally right to do this, but it was in Britain's self-interest. It was also necessary because we were all one world.

Until recently, the emphasis of the Government has been on putting Britain's house in order before more could be done to help the hard-up nations.

More than ever before, Lord Carrington appeared to be accepting the central thesis of the Brandt report that the remedy for restoring economic health to the rich nations was dependent upon action to im-

prove economic and social conditions in the developing states. The unprecedented summit meeting between leaders and foreign ministers of eight rich and fourteen poor nations, taking place today and tomorrow, is the first fruit of the report produced by the commission chaired by Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor.

Lord Carrington made two points which seem to illustrate the new shift in emphasis. Britain now backed the establishment of the so-called energy affiliate, which would be linked to the World Bank and which would provide money for the exploration and development of new energy sources in the Third World.

Some estimates suggest that a new agency of this kind would need \$25,000m (£14,000m). Lord Carrington hoped that it would attract money from the oil-producing nations, and accepted that this would mean that they would have far greater control over the running of such an institution than they do at

present in other international agencies like the World Bank. The second change of emphasis in British policy towards the Third World is the support now given, in principle, to the "global negotiations", shorthand for a wide-ranging review of the working of the world economy.

On both the energy affiliate and the global negotiations, Britain is a late convert. The United States has been hostile to both proposals since Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, intimated today that the United States would modify its opposition to the global negotiations.

President Reagan would deal with this issue "in terms that may be brought somewhat further forward" when he addressed summit leaders later today.

Both Britain and the United States have been concerned about the role that the United Nations would play in any round of global negotiations. They want specific issues like

trade and finance to be examined in the "competent" international institutions like the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the International Monetary Fund.

Those institutions rather than the United Nations would have the final say on how the working of the economic and financial systems might be improved. However, in what some observers thought to be a significant phrase, Lord Carrington said that there were "global problems which must be settled within the context of the United Nations". The best that could happen at the summit would be for all participants to spell out exactly what they meant by "global negotiations".

Energy, food and the drift towards trade protectionism were the three most important issues facing the summit. He also took a side-swipe at the Russians, who have declined an invitation to attend the summit.

It was said that one enormous block should not be interested in finding ways to help the

poor, he said. The Soviet Union "excuse that the Third World's problems were all caused by colonialism was wearing a bit thin. Britain gave more aid than all of Eastern Europe put together."

Meanwhile, key delegations among the rich countries have reacted sceptically to a suggestion made in a letter to summit leaders by Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, that the time had come to revive the idea of the Marshall Plan to help the development of the Third World in the way that American money contributed to the reconstruction of Europe after the war.

The significance of the proposals is that the Austrian Chancellor was a co-convenor of the summit, along with President Lopez Portillo of Mexico.

However, most of the rich countries present are already suffering from tight budgetary constraints and would be unlikely to give support to such a plan.

Reagan summit diplomacy

From Our Own Correspondent, Cancun, Oct 22

The Cancun summit is providing President Reagan with his first opportunity since he took office to engage in diplomacy on a worldwide scale.

In addition to his attendance at the two-day summit meeting, he is holding bilateral meetings with at least 12 other leaders, many of whom he has not met before. They include leaders from China, India, Nigeria, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, the Philippines, Austria and Mexico.

The most important meetings so far have been with Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India,

and President Shagari of Nigeria.

Taiwan, and the crucial role which the island state plays in Sino-American relations, was at the heart of President Reagan's talks with Mr Zhao, who expressed his concern about American plans to sell up to 50 F-16 jet aircraft to Taiwan.

President Reagan emphasised during his talks that the United States was obliged to fulfil Taiwan's defence needs under terms of the Taiwan Relations Act. But an Administration official said that America hoped the matter could be handled with sensitivity and in a way that will not damage our very

important strategic relationship with China.

Proposed American arms sales also dominated President Reagan's meeting with Mrs Gandhi. The United States and India are at odds over America's plans to provide \$3,000m (£1,600m) worth of arms and economic assistance to Pakistan.

The Nigerian leader expressed Black African concern over what is perceived to be a tilt by the Reagan Administration towards South Africa. He also voiced anxiety about South African attempts to destabilise black governments in Africa.

Senate votes to end aid to new nuclear powers

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Oct 22

The United States Senate, in a significant change in nuclear weapons non-proliferation policy, has voted to cut off aid to any country detonating an atomic device.

The decision arose from a compromise amendment to allow aid to resume to Pakistan. It was cut off from American assistance in 1979 when an amendment was passed to the Foreign Assistance Act requiring the President to certify that any country with a nuclear power programme was not developing nuclear weapons.

President Reagan asked the Senate for a waiver to the amendment to allow Pakistan to receive aid, arguing that Pakistan needed American weapons and help to counter the threat of Soviet forces in Afghanistan.

Senator John Glenn, Democrat for Ohio, proposed the compromise, which would allow aid to go ahead but would bar assistance to either Pakistan or India if either detonated a device. India joined the nuclear club with an explosion in 1974.

Republican senators argued that such an amendment would tie the President's hands in dealing with countries receiving foreign aid. The Administration, however, gained the waiver but Senator Glenn succeeded in limiting it to six

years. Another amendment by Senator Jesse Helms, Republican for North Carolina, widened the Glenn cut-off to any country, not possessing nuclear weapons.

Ultimately that could affect friendly nations such as Israel and South Africa, both of whom are believed to have the technology to explode a device.

A total of \$3,200m (£1,700m) of aid is planned for Pakistan. Next year it will receive only \$100m, but this will jump in 1983 to about \$600m, making it one of the largest recipients of American aid.

Pakistan has maintained that its programme is for peaceful purposes. The State Department has indications, but no firm evidence, that materials have been diverted from the civil nuclear programme which could be used in bomb making.

The State Department today confirmed that a team of United States Government nuclear experts were visiting South Africa to discuss how its uranium enrichment plant could be carried out.

The United States would resume exports of nuclear fuels if South Africa signed the International Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and agreed to International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.

Bonn tries to explain its defence policy

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 22

President Carstens today called on politicians, parents and teachers to make the Government's defence policy clearer to the sceptical public. "The fear which is fueling West Germany's growing peace movement is understandable," he told the annual assembly of the Bundeswehr soldiers' union.

"But it ignores the fact that our defence is aimed at preventing an armed conflict and the use of nuclear weapons."

"It seems to me that it is necessary first of all to explain to young people better than before our defence policy, that is our policy of preventing war and preserving peace."

"All politicians, parents and above all teachers are called upon to do this. Above all history teachers should point out that we in Europe have now had 36 years of peace, one of the longest periods without war in European history and that this was possible with the help of the Western defence policy."

The feelings of the conservative President echoed those of the Social Democratic-Free Democratic Government whose approach to defence is being increasingly contested by members of its own parties.

Herr Peter Clotz, the Social Democratic Party manager, is urging party workers to argue the Government's case more convincingly against its past roots level.

Before his illness, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, was planning an autumn campaign of speeches, and commentators have caused doubts that his time is right. It seems that this will be somewhat delayed, but not abandoned.

In a newspaper interview today, the first since his recovery from operation, the Chancellor said that his own greatest failing was his inability "to infuse the public with the moral principles and ideas which would lead to a more considerable defence."

Talking to the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* he made it clear that he did not intend to resign before the next election in 1984, but left it open whether he would stand again for the chancellorship.

"In autumn 1984 I will have been Chancellor for 10 and a half years. This is a very long time not only for a person but for the country. That is much more important."

One should not imagine 14 years in office, the period Adenauer, "that was not good for the country. But independently of one's own inclinations and desires it might be necessary to take up one's duty again."

POLL BACKS TOUGH US POLICIES

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, Oct 22

Three of every four Americans believe that President Reagan's tough approach to foreign affairs has created new respect for the United States overseas.

This is a finding in a poll carried out by the Washington Post-ABC News public opinion Poll and published by the newspaper yesterday. However, the poll also showed that most overseas felt that President Reagan's foreign policies were creating anti-American feelings in many countries.

It showed that overall the American public gave the President high marks for his conduct of foreign affairs and continued to support him strongly on his new military build-up plans.

The figures were based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,505 people all over the country from October 14 to 18.

Forty per cent said that the United States should spend whatever was necessary to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union; 46 per cent favoured spending whatever was necessary to maintain equality. Another 10 per cent said America should limit military spending, even at the risk of falling behind.

The Middle East in general, and not the Soviet Union, was the leading source of concern.

CALL FOR TENDER

International Tenders are invited by the General Alexandria Port Authority (G.A.P.A.) for the supply, installation and commissioning of a Radar, Radio Communication system for the port of Alexandria A.R.E. The system shall comprise the following:

- Radar
- T.V. displays
- V.H.F. station
- Operating Consoles
- Power Supply airconditioning, lighting
- fire protection
- Vessel data base processing

It is intended that the successful bidder shall be responsible for the complete design, engineering, supply, installation and commissioning of the above equipment under a single responsibility contract.

Only manufacturers of Radar equipment with proven experience in Port and Airport Radar traffic management system and from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan shall be entitled to bid. Tender documents can be collected at the administration of the G.A.P.A., 106 El Morreya Ave., Alexandria, Egypt, from 20th of October, 1981 against payment of US dollars 500 equivalent per copy.

The closing date for reception of tenders shall be at 12 noon of the 20th of December, 1981 and these shall be opened in public on the same date and time at the above-mentioned address.

Yard helps inquiry into Libya deal

By Our Foreign Staff

The Metropolitan Police said yesterday that it had assisted colleagues in Washington in inquiries into the operations of Mr Edwin P. Wilson, alleged to be a former Central Intelligence Agency operative who is a fugitive in Libya from charges that he exported explosives to that country illegally.

"The guilty party, Police have no interest in the matter," Scotland Yard said. "But we have had messages from other forces in Washington."

The Yard was asked to discuss any details of allegations in *The New York Times* yesterday that Mr Wilson had run a recruiting operation from London, hiring American, Canadian and British pilots to fly transport aircraft and helicopters for the Libyan Government, and that some of those recruits had been involved in operations.

According to *The New York Times* in 1976 Mr Wilson concluded a business deal with Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to sell his expertise in intelligence, arms and explosives to Libya for the training of terrorists.

A few years later, when federal investigators began to examine Mr Wilson's activities in the United States, he moved his base from Washington to Europe and Libya.

At about that time, it is said that several companies controlled by Mr Wilson began using the London office of a British company. Since then, that company has moved office at least three times, most recently to a small residential side street in Marylebone.

The recruitment programme, which started about two years ago, includes dozens of pilots, flight engineers and aircraft mechanics from the United States, Britain and Canada with both civilian and military backgrounds, according to associates of Mr Wilson. Among those recruited, apparently, were British paratroopers.

IN BRIEF

Guilty plea in kidnap case

Montreal—Marc Carboneau, a Quebec separatist, pleaded guilty to the 1970 Montreal kidnapping of Mr James Cross, a British diplomat.

Mr Carboneau, aged 47, who helped to the non-defunct Quebec Liberation Front, returned to Canada last May from self-exile in France and pleaded not guilty to the kidnapping. He changed his plea to guilty before a sessions court judge and was released on bail. He will be sentenced on December 11.

Award for Briton

Portugal—Mrs Jean Knox, a British hairdresser from Halifax, who rescued a family of five trapped in a burning car, has been awarded the Samaritano (Good Samaritan) prize, given annually to a person who helped road crash victims, the jury of the Italian award announced.

Karate warning

Moscow—The Soviet youth newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* warned its readers against the dangers of karate and said it had been used by two youths in a murder. It printed letters reporting the rising popularity of karate and calling for stricter regulations on the sport.

Danish-Chinese pact

Peking—Denmark and China signed a scientific, educational and cultural cooperation agreement for 1982-83, the New China news agency reported.

Border 'violation'

Islamabad—Two Afghan jets violated Pakistan's air space in the latest of a series of border provocations, a Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Chambers missing

Katmandu—Two Swiss climbers are presumed dead after being missing during an attempt on the 27,496ft Lhotse Shar peak.

Takeover debate strains tempers

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Oct 22

The nationalisation debate, with its infernal rhythm of late night and weekend sittings, is straining the tempers and the nerves of the Opposition and of the majority.

The Opposition's objective is to exhaust every article of procedure (some 1,400 amendments have been tabled) to embarrass the Government and prolong the discussion; that of the majority is to muster its big battalions to steam-roll the Bill through, though it shows signs of having lost control of the debate. It has given up hope of completing the task before the end of the year, as was planned.

The deep-seated ideological conflict underlying the nationalisations issue, the surprising combativeness of Gaullists and Giscardians, and the brassiness of many Socialist newcomers to Parliament has in the past couple of weeks created a climate of intolerance and sectarianism, even of class conflict, hitherto unknown under the Fifth Republic.

It came to a head the other night when M Michel Berson, a young Socialist member, in the style of the violent personal attacks of a distant past,

accused members of the opposition of fighting nationalisation out of personal or family interests.

To the cheers and encouragement of his side, he named the links of M Maurice Couve de Murville, a former prime minister, with the Paribas and Pechiney groups, of M Michel Debré, also a former prime minister, with the Wendel steel firm, and of M Roger Frey, former minister and president of the constitutional council, with N.M. Rothschild, the bank.

The decision of M Bernard Stasi, a Giscardian vice-president, who was in the chair at that late hour, to call the offending speaker to order—a sanction unused for the past 20 years—drew a storm of protest from Socialists and Communists.

M Pierre Joxe, the chairman of the Socialist parliamentary party, said the Opposition's suggestions that the left threatened the country's freedom and was leading the country to ruin were equally insulting.

This is a far cry from the climate of tolerance and respect for the rights of the Opposition

that president Mitterrand called for when he took office. But the Government is becoming rattled by parliamentary delay and obstruction. It knows that things will be even worse in the upper house, where it is in a minority.

Its suspicion of international businessmen and financiers has been heightened by the affair of the attempted takeover bid of the Swiss subsidiary of Paribas, and the resignation yesterday of M Pierre Moussa, its president.

At the same time, it is reluctant to resort to measures such as ordinances, against which the left protested so loudly when it was in opposition.

Even when the parliamentary battle is over, the legal battle in the courts and in the Constitutional Council will begin.

M Lionel Jospin, the Socialist party Secretary General, created another uproar last night by stating a radio programme that the great current of reform allowed themselves to be thwarted by a supreme court.

Western Sahara conflict

Tracks on a desert road that tell of guerrilla battle

From Roland Delcours, Western Sahara, Oct 22

As Morocco continues to insist that Mauritania is providing help and a base for Polisario guerrillas, all that Moroccan officers could offer the press this week as evidence of the recent guerrilla attack on this Moroccan outpost were a few marks left by tracked vehicles on the metal surface of an old Spanish road, under the windows of a fort with red walls.

The tanks themselves had turned tail on October 14, when substantial Moroccan reinforcements were sent to the garrison on the spot.

The short but brisk battle broke out on October 13 at 6 a.m. when Moroccan troops were told to attack by an armoured column made up of a dozen or so 40-ton T54 tanks of Soviet manufacture, followed by some 50 armoured troop carriers, with all their supply train — about 3,000 men.

The survivors of the 2,000-strong Moroccan garrison of Guelta Zemmur, overwhelmed by this armoured onslaught, fled into the mountains. Only the intervention of the 6th Infantry Regiment, an elite unit of the Moroccan forces, under the command of Colonel Rouchdani, succeeded in restoring the military situation.

The guerrilla armour was given close air support by a battery of Sam 8 missiles which shot down one C130 Hercules transport military aircraft and two Mirage F1

fighters of the Moroccan Air Force.

When the Polisario armoured column was counter-attacked by the Moroccan reinforcements and the Moroccan Air Force, it turned back to where it had come from, across the border into Mauritania, by way of tracks leading their way between hills strewn with stones and dried-up river beds suitable for tanks. Colonel Rouchdani's regiment followed, but the Mauritanian border is only 25 miles from the battle site.

King Hassan II emphasized in a message to the Mauritanian Government that, on this occasion, he had ordered his troops not to penetrate into Mauritanian territory. But General Dlimi, commander-in-chief of all Moroccan forces in the south, told journalists at his headquarters in El Aaiun that Moroccan aircraft had continued to harass the Polisario column up to a

distance of nine miles inside the border.

Everything points to the fact that the base from which the Polisario attack on Guelta Zemmur was launched is at Bir Moghrein, a township on the old imperial highway between Tindouf and the Atlantic coast. "We shall go and seek out the enemy's armour where it is to be found", General Dlimi told us, "for we are faced with a very serious situation created by co-operation in the area which we do not control their own territory."

Colonel Dlimi described the appearance of 100 armoured vehicles in the Saguia el Hamra, desert as "a turning point and an escalation in the war. Protected against air attack by Sam 8 missiles, this small armoured force could appear at any moment, today from Mauritania, tomorrow perhaps from Algerian soil. Our whole defence network must be reconsidered."

Moroccan losses were certainly substantial, because the small garrison on the spot was scattered in the first engagement. As for those of the Polisario's, even if they were high — according to the general, some of their wounded were in hospital in Nouakchott — they would not prevent it from coming back again with all the equipment at its disposal, old and new. The Polisario was like the hydra of Lerna, he said, and when one cut off one head, another grew in its place.

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Memorial services are due to take place in the main square of Ibarra tomorrow evening.

The incident at the checkpoint on Wednesday followed numerous arrests of suspected members or accomplices of the Basque separatist movement in different parts of the country.

Among those recently taken into custody in Madrid were a prominent feminist, Señora Jimena Alonso, and a University of Madrid psychology professor, Señor Victor Garcia Hoz Rosales.

Following the example of France, Italy and Denmark, Switzerland has issued an embargo on all imports of olive oil from Spain (AP reports).

The Federal Health department said in Bern the temporary import ban was prompted by information that numerous Spaniards who had been infected by the oil, had suffered relapses recently. The department has ordered the examination of oil and oil-based canned foods from Spain already in the country.

Police identified the dead man as José Andres Eizaguirre Gogorza, alias Gogorza, leader of the "Madrid squad" of ETA's military wing, and José Juaregui Alruibe, alias Joseito, another member of the military wing.

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Mrs Nancy Reagan embraces her son Ron after seeing him perform in a New York ballet

Marseilles judge is shot dead

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Oct 22

The murder of Judge Pierre Michel, aged 38, by two unidentified killers in broad daylight in a Marseilles street yesterday, as he was riding a motor cycle to his home in the block of flats designed by Le Corbusier, has caused a wave of indignation on the French Bench and among the public.

It is bound to heighten the public's feeling of insecurity, and criticism of the Socialist Government's alleged softness on the repression of crime, at a time when its predecessor's security and freedom law, designed to tighten up the

penal code for this very purpose, is due to come up for revision in Parliament.

M. Michel's colleagues in Marseilles are said to be in a state of shock. They have decided to suspend all hearings until Friday evening in a sign of mourning. The benches of Montpellier and Aix-en-Provence will follow suit.

The Union of Police Commissioners and senior officers today expressed its "indignation over the dastardly attack of which Judge Michel was the victim." They declared their complete solidarity with all the judges, and

emphasized that M. Michel was greatly esteemed by police officers for "his strictness, his courage, and his eminent professional qualities."

A new judges' association which is about to be created rejected the suggestion in some of the news media that assassination was a normal professional risk and insisted that it pointed, on the contrary, "to an alarming degradation" of public life in France.

M. Michel, an investigating judge at the Marseilles law courts, belonged to the gener-

ation of young and active members of the French bench who will spare no effort to get to the bottom of the ramifications.

Police investigators are keeping quiet about their findings, but M. Gaston Deferre, the Minister of the Interior and mayor of the city for 30 years, said he thought the drug traffic between France and the United States, into which M. Michel had been looking with his habitual thoroughness and disregard for his own safety for some years, was at the bottom of the affair.

Hungary lays the ghosts of 1956

Budapest, Oct 22. — Hungarians are quietly living through the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1956 anti-Stalinist uprising that split their nation, with the ghosts of the past apparently laid to rest.

No ceremonies or other events, official or unofficial, were planned to mark what a Hungarian television commentator this week described as a national tragedy.

Three weeks of bloody street battles between Hungarian rebels and Soviet tanks erupted out of peaceful student demonstrations for more democracy on October 23, 1956. More than 2,500 Hungarians were killed, according to official statistics, and an untold number of Soviet soldiers died.

Modern Hungary is probably the most stable, politically and economically, of Eastern Europe's communist states, with none of the supply problems of Poland and Romania, and little visible internal dissent. The mood in Budapest is briskly business as usual, with no trace of the tensions and passions of 1956.

But some spectres emerged to flit briefly through recent newspaper articles, radio broadcasts and television programmes recalling the insurrection.

Communist officials said the purpose of the newspaper and radio series and the television programme, which included newsreel films of the 1956 demonstrations and street fighting, was to explain to young people what happened.

Police out in force after shooting of ETA men

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Oct 22

Police in the Basque country took special precautions today to prevent street disturbances, after a series of successful anti-terrorist operations provoked riots in San Sebastian by sympathizers of the separatist organization ETA.

An anti-terrorist squad of the paramilitary Civil Guard shot dead two members of ETA when they allegedly tried to flee after their car was stopped at a police checkpoint in an industrial suburb of San Sebastian yesterday. In the same operation police captured another terrorist suspect.

Left-wing nationalist political organizations called for a general strike from tomorrow to protest against the police action. The town council of Ibarra, the birthplace of one of the dead men, approved a motion to demand an explanation from the Provincial Governor of Guipuzcoa of the circumstances of the shootings.

Police identified the dead man as José Andres Eizaguirre Gogorza, alias Gogorza, leader of the "Madrid squad" of ETA's military wing, and José Juaregui Alruibe, alias Joseito, another member of the military wing.

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LEFT-WING BOYCOTT ATTACKED

From Our Correspondent Madrid, Oct 22

Señor Felipe Gonzalez, Secretary-General of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, told the party's Congress, which is being boycotted by the left wing, that the nation's problems should have priority over those of the party. The remark was evidently meant for the left wing.

He also regretted the Government's refusal of his offer to form a coalition, adding that such a solution was now no longer possible because of the proximity of the next election.

Since the next general election is not due until 1983, he was presumably suggesting that the Centre Democratic Union Government would not be able to complete its full term.

The outcome of the elections for Galicia's first regional parliament showed a "hopeful" increase in the Socialist Party there. He attributed the victory of the conservative Popular Alliance to a reaction against the "confusing, sometimes arbitrary" policies of the Centre Democratic Union.

possible 80; 2, Poland 50; 3, Argentina 49; 4, United States 42; 5, Pakistan 38; 6, Indonesia 31; 7, Australia 26.

Ten further qualifying rounds will be played and the top 14 will qualify for the semi-final and final.

In the women's series, the United States had a bye round, but found itself in the lead, their chief rivals played each other and Britain beat Australia 13-7.

The standings after four qualifying rounds were: 1, United States 50; 2, Britain 48; 3, Australia 46; 4, Brazil 42; 5, Venezuela 19.

At the conclusion of a triple round robin qualifying stage the top two teams will play for the world title.—AP.

Britain moves into lead in Bridge championships

Port Chester, New York, Oct 22. Britain moved into the lead in the world contract bridge team championships here last night with Poland, Argentina, and the United States following. The Polish and British teams clashed in a crucial match in the fifth round of qualifying play today.

All the fourth round matches in this Bermuda Bowl event proved to be closely fought. The United States inched ahead of Poland to win 12-7, while Britain and Argentina played a 10-10 tie. Pakistan had a bye round.

Standings going into the fifth round: 1, Britain 52 victory points out of a

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Non-stop 727 from Dallas/Fort Worth. Arrive 17.15.

HOUSTON

Non-stop 727 from Dallas/Fort Worth. Arrive 17.24.

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Will people take over from animals?

Why, then, does the Common Cold Unit remain the only centre in Britain devoted to human experiments, and why does it remain so limited? Some individual scientists still use themselves as guinea pigs, and pharmaceutical company staff are sometimes asked to help in the work. But much more could be done, without in any way infringing the 1964 Helsinki Declaration, the code of conduct agreed by the world's medical associations, and the experiments. And one recent episode at Salisbury suggests that people are quite content to submit to unpleasant procedures in the interests of medical progress.

Volunteers were asked whether, after their stay, they



Dr Bernard Dixon

whatever the background to the Department's decision, it should now be reviewed, says Professor Julian and Dr McDonald. All the recent public interest in heart disease has been focused on the drama of heart transplantation; but investment in the early hours of coronary disease could pay far greater dividends.

By the time Timberman next went to the ministry, the stakes had been raised. A group of Jewish parents had visited the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires; they had been told, they said, that "60 of their children had been kidnapped and would never reappear if the testimony was printed. Timberman tried to persuade Jewish community leaders in the United States and in Argentina to neutralize the blackmail by making it public; he failed. "I finally resolved that I could not publish the



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Diana Guerrero. Editor of *Discusion*. 37/76.
 Mario Hernandez. Editor of *El Decamano* 12.5/76.
 Mario Herrera. Sub-editor on *Confirmado* 11/76.
 Juan Mesa. Correspondent for Japanese papers 1977.
 Hugo Idelman. Journalist. 29.5/76.
 Mario Ikonofski. Freelance sub-editor. 12.6/77.
 Segundo Iba. Journalist. 12.6/76.
 Juan J. Izquierdo. Bolivian journalist. 17/1/78.
 Wilson Kchoe. Journalist. 13.8/77.
 Carlos Latorio. Journalist. 27/1/77.
 Miguel Lizaso. Journalist on *La Causa Peronista*. 4/76.
 Susan Lugones. Freelance journalist. 24/12/77.
 Hector Marquench. Student journalist. 19.8/76.
 Juan Marzán. Journalist on *La Nación*. 14.5/77.
 Elsa Marmez. Journalist. 19.8/78.
 Mariano Martinez. Freelance journalist. 21.1/77.
 Susana Medina de Bertholet. Freelance journalist. 1/1/78.
 Luis Monteco. Freelance journalist. 11/1/78.
 Liliana Mottet. Graduate of student journalism school. 20.6/76.
 Carlos M. Morandini Huespe. Student journalist. 18/9/77.
 Jorge Moyano. Journalist of *Los Andes*. 12.5/76.
 Juan Nazari. Journalist. 21.3/77.
 Roberto Nazzari. Editor of *La Opinión*. 1/77.
 Carlos Perez. Journalist and editor. 4/76.
 Rafael Perez. Journalist on *La Razon*. 4/76.
 Rafael Perrotta. Director of *Cronista Comercial*. 6/77.
 Juan Carlos Piana. Editor of *El País* of Montevideo, Uruguay. 13/7/76.
 Luis Piris. Journalist and psychologist. 7/76.
 Enrique Raab. Journalist on *La Opinion* and *El Phone*. 1/77.
 Jose Ramos. Newspaper and television journalist. 31/1/76.
 Alicia Rios de Cordoba. Journalist. 27/7/78.
 Enrique Sajon. Journalist on *La Opinión*. 14/77.
 Maria San Martin de Valetti. Writer. 1/77.
 Roberto Santoro. Founder of *Barrilete* 1.6/77.
 Juan Saragallo. Journalist on *La Nación*. 25.2/78.
 Victorio Sola. Writer. 30/7/76.
 Angel Sival. Journalist. 7/8/76.
 Eduardo Suarez. Freelance journalist. 12.8/76.
 Virginia Suarez. Student journalist. 13.5/76.
 Patricia Villa. Agency journalist. 1/8/77.
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Dr Tony Smith



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After the party conference season, this is the week that Parliament comes back. How much of a comeback will it be? The double meaning echoes in the mind at the end of this extraordinary summer, for in the past two months the Westminster factor in politics has not simply been forgotten — which is normal at the party conference season — but has been subject to unusually strong attack. Some pretty uncensored forces, including populism, grass roots fervour and personal ambition have been tearing at the fabric of British politics.

The Conservative leadership, which at Blackpool has been trying to snuff out a revolt that was basically parliamentary in origin, seems to have found itself surprised at the right-wing enthusiasm of its loyalist levies from the constituencies and their hostility to parliamentary compromise.

Again, the more orthodox members of the Social Democrat Gang of Four were served notice by their rank and file that the new party is to be "run by its members" and in particular that the party leader should be chosen not by MPs but by the party as a whole. The Liberals, who already elect their leader on a country-wide basis, accepted the alliance with the SDP but made it clear that they were not prepared to have the detailed arrangements for a carve-up of the constituencies dictated by Westminster considerations.

In the Labour Party, the assault on the supremacy of Westminster was stronger still — and was repulsed by the narrowest of margins. But while it is true that the left has been robbed, for the present, of the ultimate prize — the right to dictate the election manifesto without reference to the Parliamentary Party — compulsory reselection of MPs is still in place, together with the immovable conviction of a large sector of the constituency activists that many, if not most, Labour MPs are untrustworthy crypto-Tories. Certainly as long as Mr Benn is active he will continue to attack traditional parliamentary democracy in the name of party democracy.

There is nothing absolutely new about all this. The whole object of party conferences is to give the enthusiasts their day out. It keeps up their spirits, prevents ministers and shadow ministers becoming too divorced from their ideological roots and, with luck, impresses the outlookers. The peculiarity of the present situation lies in the virulence of the attack and the fact that we are beginning to see more clearly a cumulative erosion of Westminster's traditional primacy over the rest of the political process.

It is ironical but not surprising that just when the House of

Commons has apparently succeeded, after years of effort, in increasing its influence over the executive by means of the new parliamentary committees, the individual MP should find that his classic Burkean independence of judgment as a representative and not as a delegate is under siege not simply from the Whips above him but from the grass roots beneath.

The fact is that behind the Westminster rhetoric the life of parliament tends to produce consensus and encourages compromise. Because consensus politics have failed to deliver the goods and the volatility of the electorate has caused political leaders to play safe by concentrating on satisfying the solid core of their support, the two main parties have fallen increasingly under the influence of the ideological extremists. Since these are against compromise they are bound to distrust Westminster.

One way of looking at the political scene, therefore, at the beginning of the new parliamentary session is to ask how far the normal forces in Parliament will fulfil their function this year of dragging British politics back towards the centre and by what means.

On the Conservative side, the

David Watt

centrists in Parliament (to give the wets a more polite name) are in a better case than their Labour counterparts in that constituency pressures on them are still not very serious. The Tory constituency party has, of course, ceased to exist but the old gentlemanly freedom run by the chairman, the MP and an agent paid by the Member, but it has not yet become a Soviet or an inquisitorial tribunal in the manner of many Labour general management committees.

On the other hand it is difficult to see how the moderates are to get their lower round the neck of a prime minister who has been legitimized by an electoral process — unless they are prepared to resort to embarrassingly extreme measures.

In the old days, if Conservative MPs wished to reflect the policies of their leader, or as a last resort, dispose of him, extreme gestures of rebellion were unnecessary. Some muttering in the 1952 Committee, a quiet word with one or two Cabinet grandees, a small whiff of grapes not if need be, a few abstentions in a key vote — these used, as one can see from, say, the memoirs of

Harold Macmillan, to be enough to produce a change of course.

If these hints failed the party's elder statesmen would appear in the leader's office one morning and tell him the sense of the party was that he should change tack or perhaps take a well earned rest from the burdens of leadership.

Nowadays these amenities are not available. The ultimate sanctions remain and, under the present system of leadership election, they are in the hands of the Conservative MPs (who form the electoral college); but faced with anything less than a very plausible challenger and a formal election, a determined leader such as Mrs Thatcher can tell her critics to jump in the Thames.

This means that unless they are willing to press the button on their nuclear weapon (and despite the talk about running Mr Geoffrey Rippon against the Prime Minister this autumn, there is no real sign of such willingness) the wets can achieve a deflection of course in the first instance only by votes in Cabinet, if they can muster enough of them. Failing that, it is a question either of chipping away at the edges by trying to capture the chairmanship of back bench party committees or of coming into the open with

votes against the government in the House.

The problem about the former course is that it would have no immediate effect on policy, and about the second that until the budget next spring there will be few opportunities for the wets to register votes against measures they regard as objectionable. In short, contrary to many expectations, it is quite possible that we are in for an autumn and winter in which the government can count on a lull in its immediate political difficulties.

On the Labour side, the chances of moderate MPs reasserting their independence are marginally better than before the Brighton conference, but they are still limited. The struggle between left and right will be waged principally in the National Executive Committee, the trade union councils and constituency re-selection conferences.

Westminster will provide the party with a platform on which to unite for an assault on the government's economic record, on its trade union legislation and, perhaps, if the anti-nuclear campaign really gets going, on its defence policies. But the effectiveness of these campaigns is bound to be under-

mined while the battle for power, and hence the real action is taking place elsewhere.

Turning to the centre of the scene — the role of the parliamentary parties is also limited. This is partly because of a shortage of numbers and political weight.

Even with the new recruits from the Labour Party, the alliance has only two or three big guns.

Another difficulty is the fact that neither Mrs Williams nor Mr Jenkins is in the House of Commons. But the main point is that the centre of activity and the opportunities for propaganda lie outside Parliament altogether — in the constituency, in the SDP's policy making discussions and, with luck, in by-election campaigns.

The upshot of all this does not conclusively prove the long-term trend which I indicated at the beginning. It is possible that in a new Parliament, a revival of parliamentary democracy on the basis of a multi-party system will take place. In the meantime, however, Parliament continues to go through a bad patch and there is nothing in the present constellation of political forces that seems likely to make it the centre that it should be unless and until the Tory rebels are prepared to meet their move. I do not expect that for some time.

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The Hollis affair and that spy called Elli

by Nigel West

The continuing saga of the so-called Hollis Affair is a remarkable illustration of how difficult it is to recover the reputation of someone who is dead. The intervention of a Prime Minister to clear a person's name is, apparently, insufficient.

On Wednesday a former Director-General of the Security Service, Sir Martin Furnell, and his former deputy, Anthony Simkins, stepped in by writing to *The Times* saying it was "ludicrous" to suggest that Sir Roger Hollis might have been sympathetic to the USSR.

But the renewed interest in the affair stems from the evidence of Igor Gouzenko, a 25-year-old cyber clerk who had been based at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa between 1943 and 1945. When he defected in September 1945 he was hidden away at a wartime "Special Training School" used to train SOE agents and located on the north shore of Lake Ontario, just outside the town of Oshawa. Here Gouzenko underwent a detailed debriefing, first at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and a representative of Bill Stephenson's British Security Co-ordination, Peter Dwyer, and then by Roger Hollis, then the head of MI5's section dealing with Communists.

Gouzenko offered a mass of detailed information which led to a Canadian Royal

Commission on espionage and the prosecution of 18 people, nine of whom were convicted.

The only Briton convicted was Kathleen Willscher, a graduate of the LSE and an assistant registrar in the British High Commission's Registry. She pleaded guilty to an Official Secrets Act charge and was sentenced to three years' hard labour. Gouzenko identified her as having the Soviet code-name "Elli" and produced incriminating documents referring to a source code-named "Elli". Much speculation has arisen concerning the exact circumstances of Gouzenko's debriefing, and the identification of a second Briton working for the Russians, apparently also sharing the code-name "Elli". Might this have been Roger Hollis himself? Gouzenko claimed that while working in Moscow, before his arrival in Canada, he had learned that there was a Soviet agent at work in British Intelligence.

It has now been established that in June 1943, the date of Gouzenko's departure from Moscow, the Russians were running several well-placed agents within the British Intelligence community. Two candidates, in particular, fit the bill. Kim Philby was at the time working in Section V of the Secret Intelligence Service. He had joined SIS in September 1941 from SOE and remained in the counter-intelligence section until January



Sir Roger Hollis: a reputation challenged

1945 when he was transferred to Section IX, the Soviet affairs unit. In *My Silent War* Philby misleads his readers by suggesting that he joined Section IX, the Russian section, some months earlier than he really did.

The second candidate is Anthony Blunt who joined MI5 in 1943. By June 1943 he was in B1(b), the counter-intelligence section responsible for dealing with German Intelligence matters. Later in the war he was transferred to SHAEP Ops B, the deception unit at Norfolk House, but it is perfectly possible that he too was the man referred to by Gouzenko.

MI5 later established positively that four further members of the British intelligence community had been supplying the Soviets with secrets, although they were never prosecuted. One was a distinguished Cambridge don who had spent much of the war undertaking technical research in the Admiralty. The second, John Cairncross, had worked for the SIS codebreakers at Bletchley Park deciphering German Air Force signals. Another worked for the Director of Military Intelligence while a fourth, Tom Wylie, had appeared to be blackmailed by Guy Burgess into giving information from the War Office. A final, unconfirmed, agent was suspected in MI5's legal department, but he died before any conclusion could be reached.

With any one of these suspects in the running for Gouzenko's Elli, how did Roger Hollis's name even come to be considered? If there are any rules in counter-espionage, the first is probably never to discount any piece of information, however unlikely it might

seem at the time. During the Homer investigation, which ultimately led to Donald Maclean being identified as a Soviet agent, wireless messages from Moscow were intercepted and read.

One such signal in 1945 warned the NKVD Resident at the Embassy in London that Gouzenko had defected. The text advised that Stanley was warned of this fact "as soon as he returns to London". The implication was that Stanley was highly placed, in danger of being exposed by Gouzenko, and temporarily out of contact overseas. In 1945 this description did not fit Maclean, who was in Washington and in regular contact with his Soviet case officer or Burgess, who was at his desk in London.

The identity of Stanley remained a mystery until it was realized that Hollis had been abroad at the right moment. He had been interviewing Gouzenko. In fact, Stanley was Kim Philby. While Hollis was in Canada, Philby was undertaking a desperate mission in Turkey to silence Konstantin Volkov, another troublesome NKVD defector.

Volkov was in a position to "name names" and was offering SIS three well-placed Soviet agents — two were in the Foreign Office, the third was described as "the head of a counter-intelligence organization in London". By the time Philby had arrived in Istanbul (via a conveniently roundabout route, taking in Tunis, Malta and Cairo) Volkov had been bundled aboard a Soviet airliner and flown back to Russia.

After Blunt's 1964 confession the Security Service, then led by Roger Hollis, launched a "damage control" inquiry to see if further Soviet agents had gone undetected. No one was to be exempt from this investigation, including the Director-General, and it was news of this remarkable state of affairs that became the matter of the Hollis Affair. Instead of receiving the credit for executing such a far-reaching inquiry (and one which was reviewed by an outside party, Lord Trend), Roger Hollis has become known as the man who came under suspicion of being the most successful Soviet spy ever — a travesty indeed of both history and justice.

Nigel West is the author of *MI5: British Security Operations 1909-1945* (Bodley Head, £7.95)

Could Hungary ever happen again?

David Pryce-Jones on Budapest 25 years ago and the parallels with Poland today

Life in Hungary has steadily improved these last 25 years. Communist doctrine there has proved flexible. Private enterprise has been allowed within the cooperative structure of agriculture and even in small businesses, and with incentive comes productivity. Permission to travel abroad is granted to thousands each year, and not many defect. Censorship is still only a Soviet Union is concerned.

Western trade-marks are in evidence, shops are more reasonably stocked than elsewhere in Eastern Europe, and Hungarian women continue to look as attractive as ever. Quite how much of this derives from the 1956 revolution is something Hungarians do not much discuss, as though uncertain how to distribute pride and blame. Ambiguity arises because János Kádár, leader of the Communist Party and the man who has brought the benefits, is also the betrayer of the 1956 revolution. The Russians installed him in office as the instrument to regain control of the country on their behalf. Ever since, he has argued that if Hungarians placed themselves at the political service of their oppressors, they could expect compromises and rewards in domestic affairs.

That was also the standpoint of Marshal Pétain, when in comparable circumstances he did not perceive the Vichy government during the German occupation of France. Is not Vichyite collaboration more effective against an overwhelming opponent than any amount of resistance? So to complete this line of thought, the 1956 revolution ought to be seen as misguided, a rhetorical gesture — which was just how the Germans had once presented Gaulism or the French *maréchal*.

This kind of rationalization after the event, with its element of part-truth, is more deceiving than an outright lie. Nobody much bothers any longer with the old Soviet nonsense that 1956 was really a counter-revolution led by



Twenty-five years ago in Budapest: a 14-year-old Hungarian freedom fighter in front of a destroyed Russian tank.

Cardinal Mindszenty, former landowner and Radio Free Europe. The Hungarian Communist Party has instead elaborated a theory which amounts to saying that the working class rose because it did not perceive the true interest. Even that does not obscure what everybody remembers perfectly well, that the legitimacy of communist rule had been challenged for all to see.

When Tsar Nicholas I put down the Hungarian revolution in 1849, he became one of the most hated men of his time, the first to earn for Russia its title of "thegendarme of Europe". In 1956 Khrushchev similarly tried to present the Soviet army as engaged in imperial policing of a fractious province. But had that army any more right than Nicholas I to act the gendarme?

The popular reaction provided on October 23, the

day the uprising broke out. A crowd gathered round the statue of Stalin, a bronze monstrosity 50 ft high. Eventually they succeeded in toppling it. Vast empty boots alone remained on the plinth to one of the unforgivable images of the modern age. What was so hopeful and moving at the time was the revival of political parties, and the promise of free elections and an uncontrolled press, as well as the collapse of the secret police. During so many grim years, democracy had evidently lain dormant, to awake at the first touch in Sleeping Beauty manner. The Communist Party, according to the Marxist cardinals, Lukács, himself promoted to the new government of Imre Nagy, would have obtained 5 per cent of the electoral vote, 10 per cent at most.

Probably the party, even under the anti-Stalinist Nagy, could not long have re-

conciled its minority position and its conscience in power. Rather than find one, the Kremlin arranged for the suppression of the whole experiment.

So closed what might be called the ideological phase of the Cold War. The crushing of the Hungarian demonstrated to the world that communism rested not on any accepted tenets of Marxism or scientific socialism, but solely on weaponry. Communist parties in general have since offered discipline rather than idealism.

The Czechs never took to arms in the Prague Spring of 1968, but still they fared no better than the Hungarians. Alexander Dubček, like Nagy, had it proved to him that communism must be compatible with Soviet will. The parallel with 1956 was almost exact, in that two populations were seeking to adjust their relations with the Soviet Union. But Nagy and his friends were shot in secret, while Dubček was permitted to survive as a worker in a state-farm.

Now, in Poland, this unfinished business is taking on a dramatic head. The Poles too perceive their own interests clearly, but once more the gendarme of Europe threatens and mobilizes, claiming exclusive rights over a whole population.

The question in Warsaw today remains the one which was asked earlier in Budapest. How much resistance, how much collaboration, is right when a nation has seen domination imposed on it? That the Polish party and Solidarity alike have not yet been given the full Nagy-Dubček treatment may show that the gendarme has understood his limitations. The deepest fear in the contemporary world has not in fact been the atomic bomb, but much more simply that liberty and justice count for nothing against totalitarianism. Perhaps there is not enough courage anywhere to meet that fear. Perhaps the future will be as George Orwell imagined it, a jackboot stamping on a human face for ever. Since 1956, there have been grounds for believing otherwise.

David Pryce-Jones is the author of *The Hungarian Revolution*, published by Bantam (1970).

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Hine. The connoisseurs' cognac.



A piquant preface to the Prix Goncourt

Now that the Booker race is over, the next classic on the literary scene is the Prix Goncourt, due to be announced in Paris on November 16. The favourite at this stage, I am told, is *La Nuit du Décret* by Michel de Certeau, but the jury do wish always to accompany the run-up to the prize in this year more informed than usual, thanks to a sharp piece of investigative journalism by Hervé Hamon and Patrick Rotman.

In their book, *Les Intellectuels*, just published by Editions Ramsay, Hamon and Rotman uncover a kind of intellectual freemasonry in Paris linking panel members on the Goncourt, publishers at the three major French publishers (Le Seuil, Gallimard and Grasset) writers and critics. This freemasonry, they say, ensures that the reputation of some writers is enhanced, and that the big three publishers maintain their hold on the Prix Goncourt and the financial advantages that brings. (The big three have carried off nine of the last 11 Goncourts, despite the fact that they publish only a quarter of the novels brought out in France. De Certeau's book is published by one of the three — Le Seuil.)

In their book, which has caused quite a stir, Hamon and Rotman even have a map of the cafés and restaurants in Paris where aspiring writers must be seen to join this intellectual élite.

A final piquant detail. *Les Intellectuels* was originally commissioned by Le Seuil but its revelations proved too much for its writers-cum-directors and they refused to go ahead. So the manuscript was snatched up by Editions Ramsay and is doing very well commercially, whatever the intellectual freemasons may think of it.

THE TIMES DIARY



The painter Pietro Annigoni is among a distinguished group who have gathered together to sponsor, at long last, a project that really will attempt to stem the tide of international art theft. There have been several attempts in the past but a report to be published in Italy next week proposes an international office in Florence with complete records not only of all stolen works but on known and suspected art thieves.

The Mayor of Florence has given his enthusiastic support to the project on the grounds that Italy is particularly expected to "a recrudescence of thefts", the most recent example being the disappearance, earlier this month, of 36 precious

works of art, including medieval altar pieces, from the Longhi collection in Florence.

Other members of the group include the director of Unesco, René Maheu, the president of the Moscow Academy of Sciences, representatives of the New York Metropolitan Museum and the Smithsonian in Washington and Professor William Lockart of Liverpool University.

My old friend, Rodolfo Siviero, president of the Florentine Academy and the Italian minister responsible for the recovery of stolen art, is the man who has finally got the scheme going — but it has taken ten years. When it was first suggested, the leading lights included Anthony Blunt and five Iranian museum directors who have not been heard of lately.

Sci high

Dr Robin Nicholson is to be the new chief scientist in the Cabinet's "think tank" after an upgrading of the job vacated by Dr John Ashworth, now Vice-Chancellor of the University of Salford. Dr Nicholson, a working-class man with a passion for prising roses in his free moments, will have the same status as departmental chief scientist and so be empowered to bash their warring heads together when necessary.

From some time there has been a feeling in Whitehall that the job inhibited the incumbent when it came to dealing with departmental opponents numbers one rung higher up the civil service ladder, though Nicholson's engaging smile has always seen him through that kind of problem.

The £26,000 a year job, now at deputy secretary level, involves the overseeing of scientific and engin-

eer matters considered by "think tank" the Central Policy Review Staff, to give it its proper title. Nicholson, 47, who takes up his appointment next month, will also be scientific adviser to Sir Robert Armstrong, head of the Cabinet Office, and to the Prime Minister. He is the second of three years from Inco, the Canadian metals company, for whom he has been managing director since 1976.

He was previously Professor of Metallurgy at Manchester University.

Open door

Raised eyebrows in Washington, I hear, at the sight of Ann Haldeman, daughter of H. R. Richard Nixon's disgraced right-hand man, working as a doorkeeper at the Senate. The post is not the non-job it may appear: doorkeepers on Capitol Hill are usually the young sons and daughters of fashionable families

and help the ambitious to get on speaking terms with the powerful (the first time I was "on the hill" a few years ago they all seemed to be the latest generation of Kennedy). They are patronage jobs and Ann Haldeman's was secured through Senator John Warner of Virginia (Elizabeth Taylor's husband). Warner was secretary of the navy while Haldeman was Nixon's White House Chief of Staff.

Intolerance united

When have Nazis preached the same message as extreme Jewish nationalists? By a bitter irony yesterday — almost Rabbi Meir Kahane, banned from entering Britain, was to have addressed a meeting in Golders Green last night, and the British Movement were threatening to demonstrate outside.

The militant and much-arrested rabbi, who believes all Arabs should be expelled from Israeli-occupied territory, was to have told his audience that Jews should leave Britain and emigrate to Israel — "the only solution to the Jewish question." Presumably, the British Movement would have been saying roughly the same thing.

Pound stretcher

Dr Cyril Catkin, Professor of Criminology at Strangeways University, yesterday welcomed the Home Office's "breath-takingly beautiful gesture" in awarding Birmingham University £9,686 to study left-handed writing so that police in the future might be able to narrow down suspects when black-mailers or threateners send notes.

"This is just the sort of thing that is needed," he said. "The criminals need to be caught, the police need the help, and the likes of me need the money. Even as I speak to you, I am myself preparing a proposal to study the effects of light on theft. You probably remember that Johnny

'The Mongoose' Monk, now doing a 115-stretch, regularly burgle places containing no valuables, like funeral parlours, public lavatories and local government offices. Police thought it was a cryptic play at the time but my pilot research suggests it was the influence of light alone.

"Len Sewer, my colleague, was like some money also to follow up his work on the criminal effects of light. He has found that 90 per cent of all crime in London is committed in places where light is being screened. It could be vital for police to know if a suspect is a Crossroads viewer, or maybe in the east.

"Up at Barlinnie U. we're studying tailoring and vanishing. McAubergine's hypothesis is that men in Savile Row suits are unlikely to resort to physical violence since they wouldn't wish to damage the cloth. One can't be sure of course but if research confirms this insight, think of the advantages: police would know a crook just from the label on his suit."

Benny's loss

With those robust vowels of his, it is amazing that anybody would think Benny Green could be even remotely American. So you can imagine the surprise of *Chin Webb* of Pavilion Books when he received a call from a New York publisher the other day asking if Green had any "unlike blood in him."

It transpired that Green had been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his book *A Literary Biography*. Sadly, for Green and for Pavilion, he started in business only last month, it is a condition of the prize that recipients be American. Green was threatening yesterday to take out naturalization papers, but I'm afraid that wouldn't work.

Pat Watson

THE ARTS

Holding court on campus

A group of old theatrical colleagues who are seldom to be found under the same roof nowadays converged early this month on the campus of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, for a proudly entitled "Research Conference on the English Stage Company at the Royal Court Theatre". The idea of this veterans' reunion refiguring the ancient battles of Sloane Square against a background of banana trees and mocking birds may strike the English reader as irresistibly comic. But given our own habit of letting theatre history slip down the drain we are in no position to laugh when the Americans take the trouble to reclaim it.

The connexion with LSU goes back several years to a meeting between Oscar Lewis and members of the university's speech department who adopted the theatre as a regular research subject, pursued through annual seminars, until the National Endowment for Humanities put up \$10,000 towards the funding of a full-scale conference. This duly came to pass with the full panoply of design and video exhibitions, acting workshops, and platform debates which took place at a rate of four sessions a day for an audience of American theatre workers, academics, and students assembled in the galleria Southern setting of the Union's Vieux Carré Room.



John Osborne: an angry young man

The British contingent included most of the ESC's artistic directors of the past 15 years, playwrights from the first wave (Anna Jellicoe) to recent arrivals (Stephen Lowe), and solitary designers (Deirdre Clancy). Different composition would have yielded a different, and probably more cantankerous result. But one of the achievements of the event was to summon up thick absent figures of Lindsay Anderson and John Osborne, whose contentious ghosts hovered over the discussions.

From the Americans' point of view, the main service of the meeting was to map out the landmarks in the Court's history and to underpin them with personal detail. Every major change from William Gaskill's introduction of the free-director system (after an exhausting battle with the censor) to Stuart Burge's takeover of the management committee (after his emergency appointment by the jury) is spreading through American drama departments, a Baton Rouge transactions could do much to uproot it. Gaskill agreed that any starting impulse to do "good work" is knocked sideways by unforeseen crises: that the eternal problem of the writers' theatre is to find any play worth a director's commitment; and that if, by luck, such a piece does turn up, only in retrospect does it become a "Royal Court play".

Repeated American attempts to pin down ESC policy came to a dead end against Gaskill's slogan: "Policy is the people you're working with." The two sessions that triggered off most of these memories were those on playwriting and design. David Hare described how he submitted his first play, *Sugar in the Morning*, loaded with stage directions, solely in hope of landing a job as a director. Anna Jellicoe described the dream origins of *The Secret of My Mother*, and went on to tax the company with a consistently anti-feminist bias, which is now retreating "thanks to the women's movement, not thanks to the Court." David Hare alleged an equal bias against the new writers of his generation in the early 1970s.

The design session brought memories of Jocelyn Herbert's telescopic bunks in *Chips With Everything*, the origins of Christopher Morley's rigid frame box (subsequently appropriated by the RSC), and the struggle between Brechtian theory and non-opic plays which resulted in the Puritan Court style. Stuart Burge defined this as "epic space with details of scenes introduced into it." Gaskill offered an alternative definition through the story of a dresser returning a clean pair of knickers to the cussing playboy Jean Harlow in *The Beard*. "But I'm not supposed to have any" the star protested. "This," said the dresser, "is the Royal Court Theatre. We don't believe in illusion."

Irving Wardle

The Conductor (A)

Gate Notting Hill

Ludwig (A)

Screen On The Hill

The Fox and the Hound (U)

Odeon Leicester Square

Loving Couples (AA)

Leicester Square Theatre

Blow Out (X)

Empire Leicester Square

Endless Love (AA)

Plaza, Classic Oxford Street

The week is dominated by two contrasting works from major European directors. Andrzej Wajda's *The Conductor* is a film in a hurry — a portrait of Poland's turbulent cultural life sketched with quick, darting brush strokes. Visconti's 1972 production *Ludwig* — now released in the fullest possible version (four hours long) — is a film majestically at rest, a portrait of Bavaria's King Ludwig II carefully festooned with every decorative device. Classical music takes a key part in both. The heroic tussles of Beethoven's Fifth resound through *The Conductor*, often set in piquant opposition to various urban landscapes (intoxicating New York, bleak East European flatland). *Ludwig* is bedecked with selections from Wagner, harmoniously blending with the camera's explorations of gilded ceilings, halls of mirrors and fantastic grotesques. Perhaps neither film shows their director quite at concert pitch, but

both are singular works of art. The imperfections of *The Conductor* (made in 1979, between *Rough Treatment* and *Man of Iron*) are easily apparent, and easily understandable. The conductor — an aging Polish-born musician returning for a concert after a successful career in the West — is played by John Gielgud, an actor of Polish stock but with a voice that deserves to be administered by the National Trust. He speaks his usual exquisite English, but sometimes we hear a dubbed Polish intruder. Wajda is also faced with the problem of a non-musician playing a musician: if any orchestra followed Gielgud's inflexible beat the result would be the certain cataplexy. Yet as the film proceeds, these flaws and rough edges rapidly dwindle in importance. It is not Gielgud's voice, but the grand total of his performance.

For a fable is being told about attitudes to culture and its participating artists — within Poland. Jan Lasocki, the conductor, is returning for a concert with a provincial orchestra, not the internationally renowned Warsaw Philharmonic. Instrumentalists cluster round him with excuses and complaints, while the authorities grab hold of the event as a means of proping up a country's drooping cultural prestige. A Eurovision link-up is arranged; musical reinforcements from Warsaw are summoned, despite opposition (Lasocki himself throws down his baton). Wajda surrounds this musical/political crisis with a personal one, conveyed in the same nervous style that dominated *Rough Treatment*. Lasocki's arrival disturbs the fragile marriage between Adam, the orchestra's regular director, and the violinist Marta (Krystyna Janda, splendid), whose mother had more than a friendly relations with the conductor before he departed for fame and fortune. During their tense, heated exchanges one can hear the camera whirring.

Nothing is raw in *Ludwig*; every item is grandly preserved for the audience's inspection in Panavision and Technicolor. Three years ago the Screen on the Hill presented a version lasting 137 minutes (distributors had persuaded Visconti to reduce the film's length even before

John Travolta is Jack, in Brian De Palma's *Blow Out*. He plays a sound effects technician who inadvertently picks up the noise of a terrible road crash and finds himself caught up in a web of terror

it reached cinemas). David Robinson in this paper urged readers to "make due allowance for misfortune" and taste the exotic, if butchered, fruits on offer. Now, after several twists of fate and international phone calls, the film's misfortunes are over. This four-hour version, reconstructed with the help of Visconti's script collaborator Suso Cecchi D'Amico, offers a new structural framework. Witnesses to an investigation into Ludwig's state of mind stand before a dark background and offer their testimony, extensive flashbacks, chronologically arranged, then follow. Richard

Wagner (given an inspired impersonation by Trevor Howard, all sidewhiskers and smoking jackets) still makes fleeting appearances, though this now seems caused by his turbulent friendship with Ludwig rather than anything else. More prominence is given to Ludwig's ostrich stance in political matters. But the extra length has not radically altered the way the film looks.

Perhaps the key to Visconti's sumptuous style may be found in the first visit of the actor Joseph Kainz to Ludwig's favourite castle, Lindbergh. Kainz declaims from the monarch's favourite

plays; Ludwig watches, then joins in, with a child's delighted fascination. Their supper table suddenly descends on ropes and pulleys to the floor below, where servants (they seem more like stagehands) blow out the candles and tidy up. For Ludwig's whole life is presented with the pomp and artifice of a theatrical performance. Even outside the plush interiors (filmed in surviving buildings of the period), scenes constantly freeze into tableaux.

Yet if the film had only stately pretence to offer, audiences would be in for a punishing four hours; the eye can only take so much beauty. But the visual appeal of *Ludwig* is bolstered by the haunting performance of Helmut Berger, the perfect actor to convey Visconti's version of the Bavarian King. Visconti presents us with a man living cocooned in luxury and culture, unable to reach any woman except his cousin, Elizabeth (Romy Schneider): a proud, gentle soul who visibly rots away in his lunatic castles until the Government divests him of authority. All told, the complete *Ludwig* is a majestic work of the imagination.

If only the Disney artists responsible for *The Fox and the Hound* — the studio's latest cartoon feature — had dipped into Visconti's peacock palette. But they resolutely stick to the old Disney paintbox. Rural landscapes are costly romantic; cute bunnies of furs are everywhere. The film's strong emphasis on house traditions is seen to much better effect in the narrative, which is simple and solid. Fast Disney cartoons fritter away their energies in wayward stories where the settings and characters never clicked together, but here everything is working to one purpose — the story of the fox and the hound who play together as pups only to discover that nature intended them to be enemies. *The Fox and the Hound* is a long way from *Bambi*, or even *Juniper*. But it does at least hang together.

Familiar patterns also dominate *Loving Couples*, a surprisingly pleasant comedy directed by the erratic Jack Smight. The material is an unlikely stand: two couples of different generations swap

partners only to end up safe and sound — exactly as they were. The film is saved from banality by its sharp female performances. Shirley MacLaine (a Beverly Hills doctor) acts with a brave charm, while Susan Sarandon — in a part MacLaine would have had 20 years ago — cuts an attractively sly figure as a TV weather girl. The males in the cast — James Coburn, Stephen Collins — act like bulldozers by comparison.

Despite its modest accomplishments, *Loving Couples* is a rather forlorn entertainment, geared for the kind of audience — middle-of-the-road, middle-aged — that has stopped going to the cinema. Brian De Palma's *Blow Out* is much more in line with contemporary tastes: a thriller about a political murder and its cover-up, relayed with pounding music, an ascending spiral of twists and shocks, and a sounspice of self-parody. One wishes the first scene with trepidation.

Electronic heavy breathing, a raised knife — it seems convincing evidence that De Palma has hit rock bottom. Then the penny drops: these are from *Go-Go France*, one of the dire movies that John Travolta's hero works on during the innocent days before he witnesses the "accidental" death of a rising politician. Yet the same style between this teasing opening and the bulk of *Blow Out* is too close for comfort. After his impish early films like *Sisters* and *Phantom of the Paradise*, De Palma has moved on to squander Hollywood's resources, becoming just an artful manipulator of emotional effects and narrative clichés. Travolta's animal energies in wayward stories where the settings and characters never clicked together, but here everything is working to one purpose — the story of the fox and the hound who play together as pups only to discover that nature intended them to be enemies. *The Fox and the Hound* is a long way from *Bambi*, or even *Juniper*. But it does at least hang together.

Endless Love, Zeffirelli's version of Remco and Julia for the eighties, aims for a particular audience too, though Britain's young lovers may be too busy gazing to weep many tears over the fate of Brooke Shields and Martin Hewitt. These young performers certainly make a pretty couple, but the director spends so much time idolising them in a vacuum of levity that the madcap plot founders for the lack of support.

Geoff Brown

Television

Mind and matter

The Registration officer for the Ribbles Valley looked pretty chuffed with himself as he shut the books and wound up the hearing (40 Minutes BBC2). By discounting the evidence offered by the legal officer for Mind, he had been able to conclude that there was no need to alter the rating whereby patients at Calderstone Hospital for the mentally handicapped in Walsley were not allowed to go on the electoral register and to vote.

This had nothing to do with their mental ability, he explained, although the deposition made and filmed by Harry Weissbloom at the hearing last May concerned little else — but was rather because the hospital did not constitute a "residence" or "home" in the electoral sense, even for those who had lived there for more than 40 years. You are sane, yes, but the roof over your head is not there.

Further amazement followed. Having sewn up the case to perfection by the existing rules, the officer walked across the floor to the Mind man, murmured that yes, the law was a bit of an onerous point (had not every government since the Speaker's Conference of 1973 thought so but declined to make parliamentary time in which to change it?) and advised him to test it in the courts.

We did: three men won their appeal — a decision, commented Mr Weissbloom somewhat impressively, that "would affect 40,000 other patients throughout the country". Would each case be reviewed on its own merits? Had the men won because Calderstones had been magically transformed into a "residence" or because they were mentally as bright as most of the bright buttons in that part of North Lancs (which, as the rest of the film shows us, is pretty bright)? 40 minutes is distinguished by the mixture of informality and thoroughness with which it enters and describes a lively community and "Give Us the Vote" was no exception.

A pity that so enjoyable a series is programmed to clash with the midweek middlebrow drama slot. Comfortably and undemandingly warmed by *Fanny by Gaslight* over the last month, this now falls with the case of Singapore to the Japanese army at the end of 1941, to Lavinia Warner's *Tenko* (BBC 1). Trios and tea dances in Raffles Hotel; sickness and dysentery in the hills; censorship of defence figures on the radio; guilt about children back home; a hint of inter-racial romance to come; a couple of soubrette lovers and a courageous comic nut; nothing is left out of Ken Kidding's production and Ann Bell invests an Ann Todd/Deborah Kerr sort of role with innocence, humour and intelligence. The kind of naturalistic acting, indeed, extremely hard to bring off.

Michael Ratcliffe

JOHN GIELGUD IS THE CONDUCTOR
ANDREW WATSON
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THE JEWELS OF THE MADONNA
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A larger than life and twice as funny
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I couldn't have enjoyed it more
SEEK THE SUMMER DREAM
GLOBE THEATRE

RSC
First performance 1970
Times 2.00 Sat 2.00

Aldwych
THE LOVE-GIRL AND THE INNOCENT
THE LOVE-GIRL AND THE INNOCENT
Aldwych Theatre
First performance 1970
Times 2.00 Sat 2.00

Concerts

Dmitri down the ages

LPO/Shostakovich

Festival Hall

The composer Dmitri Shostakovich would have been 75 last month. By way of celebration, Victor Hochhausner, who has done so much for an Anglo-Russian musical entente, on Wednesday brought to London two further generations of the Shostakovich dynasty.

His son, Maxim, conducted the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the fifth symphony, and the Festive Overture, and in the second piano concerto they accompanied Maxim's son, who is also named Dmitri, and bears an astonishing resemblance to his grandfather when young — both now live in the United States.

For a festive occasion they doubtless wished to avoid the late, greatest, tragic symphonies. They settled on the fifth, much of it blatant and bombastic, perhaps intelligible as a disgusted citizen's satire on the Stalin regime in the 1930s.

The concerto is good fun for a dynamic youngster, the solo part mostly in octaves, as if modelled on Schubert's Trout Quintet, with some most brilliant and testing passages, plenty of jovial tunefulness and, in the slow central movement, at the soloist's entrance, what must be the most magical melody composed by anybody since, say, 1945.

Dmitri junior did not play it with all the loving expressiveness it is worth, though his legato technique is respectable, and in the rollicking outer movements his nerve and clean, incisive tone provided just the required article.

Maxim Shostakovich must know just how much of his father's *Testimony* is credible. In the fifth symphony he presented the first movement's development in its most aggressive, dislikable form — no question that the forces are hostile.

The lyrical music of that movement, including the gestures of the first subject, was treated nobly and idealistically, the show movement fervently, the final as if he believed in its surface optimism, an empty copy of Mahler's positive symphonic denouement that is probably the only way to approach the music, when you are in charge of it.

William Mann

Dance

Tied to the rock

Karole Armitage

Riverside

We knew Karole Armitage as one of Merce Cunningham's most distinctive dancers; I read that she began her career dancing Balanchine; and here she is for Dance Umbrella dancing her own *Drastic Classicism* to the rock sounds of Rhyx Chatham.

Pretty overpowering the noise is to anyone unaccustomed to rock concerts, but the dancers manage to hold their own, and they do not need a truckload of machinery to help them stun the audience. Twice, in fact, they even join the music making: the nearest the musicians get to joining the dance is when they are leant on, or turned by Armitage and her team.

There are four musicians, the others being David Linton on drums, Michael Brown on bass and Joe Disney joining Chatham on guitars. Four dancers, too: Chris Komar and Joseph Lennon on loan from Cunningham, Nathalie Richard from France. The two men are both extraordinarily tough, Komar lean and fair, Lennon dark, thick-set,

but Armitage has more energy than any of them and works it flat out.

Classicism is a justified claim in the title of her work; the standard *porte de bras* exercises are a starting point for her, just as four notes are for Chatham. But the use she makes of it is certainly drastic, whether as one of the strenuously athletic figures in black and white for the first half, or a punk brawler in blue turn worn over black trousers to lead the frenzy of the second half.

Charles Atlas designed the costumes and provided a surreal film at one point; was the sexy photographer who joined in near the end his idea too? All that added to the fun, but the dancing was really made the show: desperate in manner, and superb in execution.

A new small British group, Nin Dance Company, provided the late show last night; they seem inclined heavily to theatre, but Angela Warren and Michael Quaintance made effective dance-drama of Quaintance's *Negatives*.

John Percival

Noela Willis is Carmela and Anzele Marenzi is Gennaro in Wolf-Ferrari's *Jewels of the Madonna*

Radio

Death in Trieste

Radio 3

"Will nothing ever happen to make me the scholar's brother, who cannot live his life, but who could die his death?" In these words which Frederic Raphael put into the mouth of his disappointed schoolmaster, Gilbert Sage, lay the essence of this new and glittering play. The scholar he referred to was the influential classicist, Johann Joachim Winckelmann (1717-1768) who perished in Trieste murdered, says the Oxford Companion, by an Italian thief. By a cook, said Mr Raphael, a thieving cook perhaps in whom he went on to suggest, Winckelmann may possibly have been attracted beyond the culinary.

Death in Trieste then played with a parallel — the great sage, Winckelmann; the lesser, Gilbert. Poor Gilbert, a second of Oxford blasted his eyes the prettier pupil with whereupon he fled from the one woman who offered herself. Now he teaches classics at a boys' public school where, middle-aged, he eyes the prettier pupil with latent but safely repressed interest. This is where we meet him at the end of a school year, just about to take a holiday alone in Italy. There his hopes of entering the brotherhood of Johann Joachim, if only in the violent circumstances of his death,

are fleetingly brought to life by an ambiguous encounter with Mario, a pensioned cook. But there is no agonising, decisive knife in the belly waiting for Gilbert, only the torments of indigestion brought on by Mario's bad fish. This is as close to Winckelmann as he will ever get.

A slight ironic story, then, which gains a good deal more consequence than it probably deserved from the manner of its telling. The backbone was a huge narration, full of allusions, puns, epigrams, and which was so energetically written, so nicely punctuated with dialogue, so intelligently spoken by John Bennett that the listener could not help but be beguiled into overlooking any lacunae. This was above all for the long opening in which the atmosphere, relationships and tensions of Gilbert's school were wickedly evoked. The brilliance faded a little as we came to Italy, but by then Mr Raphael had done enough to keep us with him to the end — if not, I think, beyond it.

Norman Rodway played Gilbert, the only other major part, and he knew precisely how to interpret. Direction was by Anthony Moncrieff, a name usually associated with solid political documentaries. Its excellence made his achievement all the more interesting.

David Wade

Opera

Neapolitan crowds brim over in Wexford's half pint pot

The Jewels of the Madonna

Wexford Festival

Wolf-Ferrari's *The Jewels of the Madonna* comes close to hitting the identikit picture of the ideal possible opera. The name is familiar thanks to that famous intermezzo, an infiduous lollipop which has been with most of us since childhood, but the contents are not.

Convent Garden clearly gave it a slap-up British premiere back in 1912 when they engaged singers of the calibre of Martelli and Sammarco. Italy on the other hand shunned it because of the mildly blasphemous nature of the story of a Neapolitan tease called Mafietta, who decides one day that she would like around her own neck the jewels adorning a much-worshipped local statue of the Madonna.

The real reason for the neglect is probably the scale. Wolf-Ferrari demanded, grandiose scenery, an orchestra of well over 100, and a smaller quantity of singers. Wexford's answer is to cut it down to size but not too far down. The

Theatre Royal's half pint pot of a stage is overflowing with Neapolitan crowds; hawkers, tarantella dancers, a brass band until he is provoked by Mafietta into wrapping up some of the tools of his trade to divest the Madonna of her finery.

Down on all of them from Russell Craig's permanent set stares a replica of that Madonna, a dusky creature with a Maria Montez look about the eyes.

Prodded by Graham Vick's answer to the shabby libretto Wolf-Ferrari chose, is to cover it with a wash of embers. The composer was strong on tunes and weak on character, both musical and dramatic. Mafietta is little more than a slut, throwing around Gennaro, the honest foster-brother for Mafietta, the chief of the Commoristas, a flashy masquer with his buttonhole, spats and cane.

Marie Siorach, from the Scottish Opera, turns her into a Carmen figure, flashing her eyes at every man in town before going to watery grave in the Bay of Naples. Finally shamed by wearing those holy jewels. It is an extrovert, confident performance, hard-edged, very

much in keeping with the surface glitter of the music. Angelo Marenzi started uncertainly as the blacksmith Gennaro, a brusque, ban until he is provoked by Mafietta into wrapping up some of the tools of his trade to divest the Madonna of her finery.

As the voice settled down there emerged a solidly-based tenor as thoroughly thoughtful singer trying to put flesh on a part which carries no dramatic credibility. Ciccio Desidero, a young and very healthy-sounding baritone, had a much easier role as Raffaele, the flash Harry of Naples.

The Wexford Chorus and Radio Telefis Orchestra under Colman Pearce, realised that the big ensemble served the composer to his best music and gave a fiery, whole-hearted performance. Wolf-Ferrari is a musical magpie of a man hopping in style from Wagner to Giordano, picking up a jewel and then covering it with dross. He might not have been a great opera composer, but he could have written marvelous film scores. Wexford did their best to give him the wide-screen treatment in a small screen town.

John Higgins

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

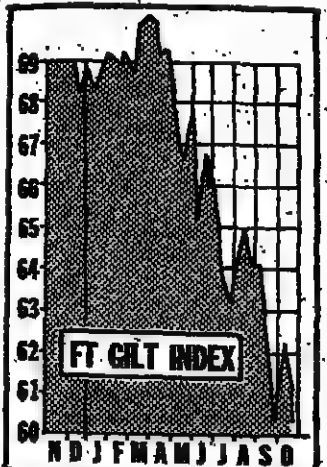
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Markets jittery on interest rate fears

By John Whitmore

Continuing uncertainty over the future course of interest rates brought renewed nervousness to London financial markets yesterday.

Prices of government stocks fell by up to 21 and were driven back to their lowest levels of the year. The FT-30 share index closed 9.2 down at 467.3.



In money markets the three-month interbank rate rose to 16 1/4 per cent from 15 1/4 on Wednesday.

Overnight money and seven-day money rates, however, remained in a band of 15 1/4-15 1/2, thus putting no further pressure on the clearing banks to move their base rates back up to 16 per cent.

The market is clearly not convinced, though, that domestic interest rates have peaked. In particular the renewed firmness in dollar rates this week has revived fears that sterling will come under renewed pressure, forcing British rates still higher.

Wednesday night's news of a further slowdown in the United States economy in the third quarter appears to have been outweighed by the sharp rise in the inflation rate.

Short-term dollar rates were again firm yesterday and the dollar recovered further ground on foreign exchange markets. It closed one penny up at DM2.2840 and also made ground against sterling.

Although the pound finished a half cent down at \$1.8160, it fared better against other currencies and its trade weighted index rose 0.2 to 87.3.

City views on what happens next are mixed. The latest gilt-edged and monetary review from James Callaghan, the stock brokers, says it may not be easy for the Government to lower interest rates quickly. It suggests a cut in the National Insurance surcharge to help companies through the heavy tax payments falling due over the next few months.

L. Messel, however, believes that there may be a sharp cut in United Kingdom interest rates by early next year. It sees dollar rates easing and sterling performing well through the re-paying season. Without such a fall in British rates, the eventual outcome could be a depression of 1930s proportions.

Financial Editor, page 21

Gestetner in talks to buy Nexos

By Bill Johnson, Electronics Correspondent

The 100 year old British family company Gestetner is negotiating to buy Nexos, the word processing subsidiary of the British Technology Group (BTG), which was set up by the National Enterprise Board in 1979.

Nexos, which is 99 per cent owned by BTG and 1 per cent by its staff, is expected to raise at least £10m in any sale.

The proposed sale is a direct result of Government instructions issued last year after a further injection of capital. BTG was told to sell the company at the earliest opportunity which would be "considered commercially expedient."

Nexos was set up, with an initial capital investment of £15m, to act as a marketing forum for British products which could be used in the "electronic" offices. The initial investment was followed by a further £20m last year, although not all of that money has as yet been spent.

Gestetner has been looking for a way into office automation. Its other activities include the supply of copiers, offset and stencil equipment. The November to May half yearly profits of the company slipped to £4.4m from the £10m achieved over the same period the previous year.

The directors of Gestetner Holdings announced yesterday that the talks were at an early stage.

Since its inception in 1979, Nexos has been regarded as one of the riskiest ventures encouraged by the National Enterprise Board. A substantial proportion of the money invested in the company has gone into development. The microcomputer developed by the group, the Nexos 2200 cost over £1.5m to develop.

Deals were also made with Multihed for the manufacture of a facsimile machine and with the United States company Delphi, a subsidiary of Exxon, for a licence to use a large Nexos computer developed as a powerful telephone management computer tool.

The Nexos 2200 word processor, developed in conjunction with Logica, was launched at the beginning of this year and is being marketed by Mr Brian Wilton, BTG chief executive. The first years sales performance of the word processor would be very significant.

Earlier this year he said: "Nexos' success with this machine will be the make or break. It is too early to tell yet, but we should know before Christmas if things were to go seriously wrong."

The company has been led by Mr Muir Moffat, a professionally trained engineer who joined BTG in 1965. In January 1979 he left to become managing director of Nexos.

Gestetner is still controlled by the Gestetner family under the joint chairmanship of the two brothers, David and John.

Gestetner's half yearly turnover dropped slightly to £146.5m from £147m over the same period last year despite a 10 per cent increase in world sales outside the United Kingdom and Europe.

Mr Muir Moffat: Nexos chief since 1979.

Table, page 23

Takeover rules clear way for rival bids

By Philip Robinson

The Takeover Panel yesterday cleared the way for rival bidders to move in an existing takeover battle. It has clarified rules on stock market share buying introduced by the City's watchdog, the Council for Securities Industry, three weeks ago.

The panel's announcement is a result of requests from companies wanting to declare their interest in buy-out bids. Although these are not named, the two main targets are the £55m bid for Ever Ready Battery Group, Beret, by Sir James Hanson's Hanson Trust and the £25m surprise bid by footwear group Ward White for Hilton's Footwear.

The CSI's rules to clamp down on quickfire bids banned stock market share buying for seven days once a predator had secured a large stake in the market. After that he was allowed to buy further shares. The cooling off period was designed to give the target company time to tell its own shareholders why they should not sell out to another company.

The panel said that from midnight last night, a counter bidder or an existing bidder making a higher offer is free of its seven-day restriction. The offer is made after the seven-day period.

If a counter-bid or higher offer is made within the seven days, the restriction will remain in force until the period—which begins from the first substantial purchase—has expired. A rival takeover or increased offer would not give rise to a further seven-day cooling off time.

The panel says the one exception to these rules will be when a single shareholder has more than 50 per cent of the voting rights of a company.

LLOYD'S AMENDS ITS BILL

By Philip Robinson

Lloyd's of London publishes today the additions to its Bill. A parliamentary committee had asked for the additions to prevent conflict of interests in the world's oldest insurance market.

But although Lloyd's is confident that its amendments adhere to the letter of the changes sought by the committee, headed by Mr Michael Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham West, it admits the provisions do not plug all the loopholes.

Anyone looking for ways to get round the new rules will be dealt with by the new Ruling Committee at Lloyd's under its own by-laws.

The proposals detail new clauses saying that brokers will have to sell off their interests in underwriters within five years and that managing agents will recruit names for syndicates who will not be allowed to operate the syndicates themselves.

It is understood that some insurance brokers, looking to give up their lucrative underwriting businesses are already planning ways to circumvent the rules.

The insurance market has made no progress on the contentious issue of immunity, which would mean Lloyd's ruling council is free from legal action over its decisions.



The Warner brothers: (from the left) Alen, Duggie and Bill.

Warner Holidays chiefs resign

By Catherine Gunn

Two of the three Warner brothers who built up Warner Holidays, the package holiday and holiday camp group bought by Grand Metropolitan in April, are to retire from the board on December 12.

Mr Alen Warner, managing director, and Mr Duggie Warner, a director, are resigning from personal reasons. Mr Alen Warner, aged 50, whose family shareholding in Warner Holidays was worth about £520,000 under the terms of the Grand Metropolitan deal, intends to develop a hotel he owns in Alderney, Channel Islands.

Mr Duggie Warner, aged 49, whose family stake was worth about £530,000 under the offer terms, plans to live overseas.

Mr Gibbons said neither director had indicated a wish to retire from Warner at the time of the takeover, which was backed by the Warner board. Mr Bill Warner, chairman, is staying on and will also assume the post of managing director.

Mr Bob Greenfield, sales and marketing director of another Grand Metropolitan business, Warner's London, joins the Warner board as deputy managing sales and marketing director in January.

Warner's operations will be expanded and may be marketed through other Grand Metropolitan interests save as its blingo hotels. Mr Gibbons added: "It bought Warner six months after its £87m bid for Coral Leisure was halted by referral to the Monopolies Commission."

Not long after Coral acquisition of the Pontin's holiday business in 1978, founder Sir Fred Pontin retired with a £200,000 golden handshake.

There was no question of compensation for the termination of service contracts for the two retiring Warner directors from Grand Metropolitan. Mr Gibbons said yesterday.

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Warner's operations will be expanded and may be marketed through other Grand Metropolitan interests save as its blingo hotels. Mr Gibbons added: "It bought Warner six months after its £87m bid for Coral Leisure was halted by referral to the Monopolies Commission."

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North Sea group lists new tax proposals

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

New proposals for modification of the Government's offshore oil taxation regime aimed at encouraging development of new fields, have been submitted to Whitehall by the main oil companies operating in the North Sea.

Discussions have been taking place among the 39 member strong United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association (UKOOA) for months. A new regime, after an invitation from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for them to produce a package they considered acceptable.

The industry's main complaint has been against the supplementary petroleum duty which was introduced in the March Budget which is designed to siphon off an extra £1,000m from the oil companies this year.

Predictably, the oil companies, in their submission lodged yesterday with the Treasury and the Department of Energy, have called for the SPD to be terminated at the end of June next year. The UKOOA has suggested that advance Petroleum Revenue Tax payments should be implemented from the beginning of July next year at a maximum rate of 20 per cent, and based on an SPD formula, to the end of next year, and decreased by 5 per cent a year until phased out by 1985 at the latest.

The UKOOA estimated that those, and other recommended changes would provide the Government with an overall increase of 51 per cent against the estimated 10 per cent rise to 86 per cent Government "take" which came after the introduction of new taxation measures in the Budget.

The oil industry claimed that the effect of this year's tax changes will cut companies' cash flow by about one third, a reduction which the UKOOA described as "excessive".

Because of the more stringent taxation regime, the oil companies have already announced the reconsideration of five new offshore oil field development programmes and claim that the industry's ability to finance the increasing number of small, high cost fields—which will be needed to meet expected demand in the 1990s—has been "severely curtailed".

The association said in a statement yesterday that changes in PRT would drastically reduce cash flows in the declining years of a field.

NIGERIA CUTS ITS OIL PRICE

Nigeria has cut its oil price by \$1.50 a barrel. Some analysts have said the move, which is backdated to October 1, will complicate the meeting next Thursday of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and will increase pressure on the group to agree to unify prices.

Late in August, Nigeria gave its customers a \$4 discount off the official price of \$40 a barrel, but the move did not persuade oil companies to start buying again.

The new cut, which comes in the form of freer credit terms, may, however, be enough to enable Nigeria to increase its exports of high-quality oil.

At the moment only 400,000 barrels a day are being exported. This compares with 2.1 million barrels a day last year. Some analysts say the move shows Nigeria's eagerness and reluctance to wait for its Opec partners to unify prices.

"They've decided to go their own way with pricing," said one. "They felt that they have pressing economic problems that they must solve and that they can't wait for Opec to heal its rift."

Mr Kawashima said: "We will not close our doors to cooperation if it can be done on a mutual basis." The company was considering a number of proposals from manufacturers around the world, although no decision on them was imminent.

The International Trade and Industry Ministry in Tokyo denied that it was considering extending voluntary curbs on car exports to West Germany and Belgium into 1982.

—Reuter.

Union takes over another 6,000 insurance workers

The 6,000-member Eagle Star Staff Association is to become part of the Barking Insurance Union, the union which brings the union's membership to 148,000, who include the staff associations at Guardian Royal Exchange and Phoenix.

Mr Cliff Smith, the union's general secretary, made it clear last night that the union would embark on drive to win over staff associations, representing up to 45,000 staff in Scottish Life, Scottish Equitable, and other firms and the two major companies where the associations remain independent, Sun Alliance and Commercial Union.

Consolidated Gold Fields has agreed with Newmont, the American mining company, that it will not acquire more than 26 per cent of Newmont before the end of 1984. ConsGold has also agreed to buy one million Newmont shares at \$72 each.

The company has so far built up an 11.4 per cent stake at a cost of \$200m. ConsGold originally said it wanted to buy between 25 and 49 per cent of Newmont.

Financial Editor, page 21

Lucas sells to Russia

Risks, a Lucas subsidiary, has signed a £2m licensing deal with the Soviet Union. The company will supply the Soviet motor industry with the technology to produce its Fabrosip wiring assemblies, already installed on B1, Renault and De Lorean cars.

Shop takings fall again

Consumer spending fell again in the third quarter of this year as higher taxes and prices bit more deeply, according to provisional figures from the Central Statistical Office. The volume of spending dropped a further 1 per cent between the second and third quarters to its level of a year ago, after peaking in the first three months of 1981.

Lower spending in the shops, which accounts for half of all consumer spending, was the principal cause of the fall, but most items were affected. Consumer durables, including cars, seem to have suffered a particularly sharp fall-off in sales, perhaps of 5 per cent.

Table, page 23

CBI seeks curb on asbestos

Tougher controls to protect workers from exposure to asbestos have been called for by the Confederation of British Industry. The CBI said yesterday, in fully supporting the Health and Safety Commission's recommendations which include a ban on the import of crocidolite, the most dangerous kind of asbestos, and limits on exposure to all other forms of the substance. The proposed curbs are stricter than ones being considered by the EEC.

TODAY

New vehicle registrations: sales and orders in the engineering industries for July.

Companies reporting their results include: Beca Group, Clayton, Son & Co (Holdings), London Atlantic Investment Trust, and Mettoy.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Mr Clive Sinclair and Mr M. Ohtaki, above, have joined together to sell British microelectronic technology in Japan. They aim to sell thousands of models of a personal computer, seen with them above and produced by Mr Sinclair's company in Cambridge, through the Mitsui company, of which Mr Ohtaki is assistant general manager in Britain.

Sinclair invades, page 20

Building goods decline slows

A slowdown in the decline of building materials sales is revealed in the latest survey by the Builders' Merchants Federation. Sales in August, on an annual basis, were down by 14.6 per cent, compared with 16.1 per cent in July.

Mr Reg Williams, the federation director, said: "A definite trend towards a real improvement has been established over the last three months."

VW chief goes

Volkswagen, the German car manufacturer whose profits slumped to only 15m Deutsche marks in the first half of this year, is expected to announce major changes in top management, probably today. Professor Friedrich Thome, Volkswagen's director of finance and second ranking man on the board, is thought likely to offer his resignation.

Another rough ride, page 21

Italy's official reserves rose to \$9,650,000 million in August, the Bank of Italy announced yesterday.

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IN BRIEF

Engineering orders show small rise

Engineering sales in the first six months of this year have shown a small rise compared to the same period of 1980, statistics from the Department of Industry revealed yesterday.

Total orders in hand have improved by nearly 9 per cent since last December though they are still two points below their level of a year ago.

Home order books have expanded by 3 per cent in the three months to July, while foreign orders have increased by 4 per cent in the same period.

Japan recovers

Japanese personal consumption may be showing signs of a weak recovery, Government economists told journalists. They said they based their belief on recent returns from department stores, a rise in cash earnings and developments in the registration of new vehicles.

SA price index up

The consumer price index in South Africa rose to 211.3 in September from 208.0 in August, the Department of Statistics said. The rate of increase in the 12 months to September was 15.6 per cent, down from 16.1 per cent in the year to August.

Rover dealer

The Sime Darby group said yesterday it has been appointed sole distributor of Land Rover and Range Rover vehicles and parts in Malaysia and Singapore.

Inflation rises

Provisional cost of living indexes for October rose in major Italian cities, indicating a severe quickening of the inflation pace after a five-month lull.

Lancer Boss is likely to seek merger overseas

By Edward Townsend

Lancer Boss, the privately-owned Bedfordshire company which claims to be among only a handful of manufacturers now making profits in the over-supplied European fork-lift truck market, disclosed yesterday that it is actively seeking to take over competitors or form partnerships.

Mr Neville Bowman-Shaw, the Lancer Boss chairman, said that the company was looking at acquisition possibilities in Britain, Germany and the United States, and was particularly interested in strengthening its position in the market for lift trucks of under four tonnes capacity.

He said it was possible the company might make a second bid for Coventry Climax, the BL subsidiary earmarked for disposal as being peripheral to the group's mainstream car and commercial vehicle operations.

Last year, Lancer Boss made an offer for an undisclosed sum, but it lapsed.



Mr Bowman-Shaw: aiming to double size of company.

because of BL's lack of interest.

More likely now, however, is a merger of Lancer Boss with one of the bigger overseas lift-truck makers. Mr Bowman-Shaw said he hoped to double the company's size in the next ten years.

Spotlight on currencies in court awards

A working paper on the rights of English courts to make monetary awards in foreign currencies was published yesterday by the Law Commission.

This is an area of the law which, at a time of rising emphasis on foreign trade, is taking on increasing significance.

As a result of the sea-sawing value of the pound, there are times when those involved in, for instance, international trade disputes in English courts could find themselves hard done by if an eventual court award had to be paid in sterling.

The 195-page working paper issued by the Law Commission which monitors the law and recommends changes, spotlights all aspects of the law in this area.

The purpose of the working paper is to canvass opinion on whether new laws are necessary to clarify the law or whether it should be left to the courts to bring about changes as they become necessary.

The Law Commission favours leaving the problems for the courts to iron out.

The commission says there are a wide variety of actions heard in the courts in which the type of currency used in the award could have a serious bearing. These range from shipping cases and commercial arbitration to maintenance awards involving separated couples living in different countries.

Before a House of Lords ruling in 1975, the courts had no choice but to convert awards into sterling, the exchange rates used for the conversion depending on the type of claim.

A Law Commission spokesman said: "This caused injustice to the claimant when the pound had fallen in value against the foreign currency."

Britain awaits EEC court ruling on drinks tax
Pint of beer could cost 7p moreBy Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

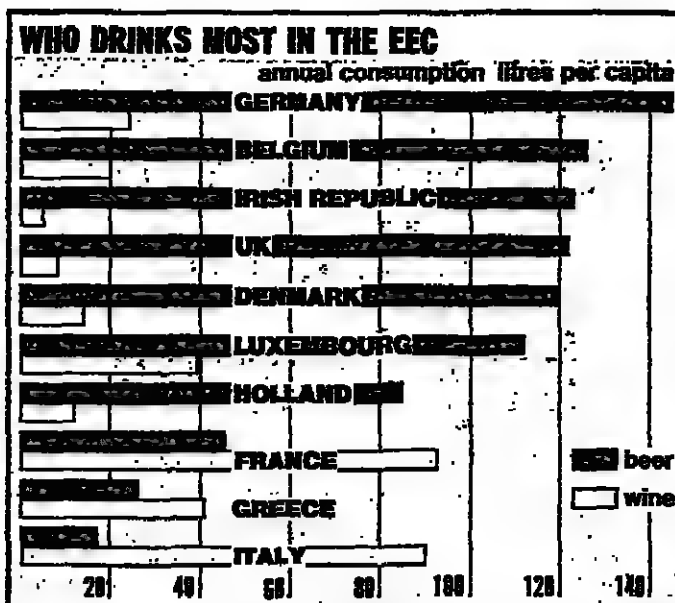
British beer drinkers could face a price rise of up to 7p a pint depending on a decision in the European Court of Justice, expected early in the new year. Alternatively the price of wine could drop by as much as 28p a bottle. This is quite apart from what the hard pressed Chancellor may want to do to raise excise duties in the next Budget to increase the Government's tax take from drinks.

The likelihood of what is an unresolved dispute within the EEC over harmonisation of drinks taxation could be a possible 2p rise in the price of beer and about 23p off a bottle of wine.

Last month the European Court postponed temporarily a final judgement on what action to take against Britain following allegations of discriminatory treatment between beer and wine taxes.

This was to allow time for the EEC's fiscal committee to find a compromise formula on reforming the alcohol taxation structure in Europe.

Britain's ratio of tax on wine compared with that on beer is 4.2 to 1, the highest in the EEC. The European Commission had been pressing



for a ratio of 3 to 1 as a ceiling.

Four countries, the Irish Republic, Denmark, Belgium and Holland all have a higher ratio of tax on wine than on beer but all are below the Commission's benchmark.

Italy, West Germany and France tax wine more lightly. Britain has already moved

some way to meet objections of the main wine-producing countries. In the last two

Budgets the Chancellor increased wine duties less in proportion to those on beer, bringing the ratio down from above 5 to 1. There had been hopes that a compromise solution would be for the British ratio to come down to

3.5 to 1, to be implemented over as long as six years. There are some hopes that if the European Court lay down a specific ratio, it may pitch it nearer the 3.5 mark. In an interim judgement the court indicated there were flaws in both sides of the case put before it.

One argument put forward by British brewers was that wine and beer were not readily substitutable drinks in terms of consumer preference. The person who normally drinks a pint of beer was hardly likely to turn to a large glass of wine as a substitute. The court thought the two drinks were only partially substitutable.

The Brewers' Society said yesterday it was relieved that the case would go to the court rather than running the risk of a poor compromise around the 3 to 1 level.

Trade calculations suggest that on a 3.5 to 1 ratio the effect of a mixed option would be to add 1p to a pint of beer and reduce the duty on a bottle of wine by 18p. Whatever the ratio eventually decided, the Chancellor is expected to take a mixed option to avoid too great a depressing effect on tax revenue.

HEATING OIL STOCKS HIGH

Stocks of winter heating oil are generally still high in leading oil importing countries, where government and industry officials are saying that supplies should be adequate according to a Reuters survey.

But refinery throughput is down in the present soft-product market and, with prevailing high interest rates, the industry has found carrying of high stocks an added financial burden.

Sinclair set to invade Japan

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

British micro-electronic technology is preparing to invade Japan under a sales deal struck between Sinclair of Cambridge, and Mitsumi Computers.

Over 20,000 Sinclair ZX81 personal computers will initially be exported to Japan but that level is expected to rise to at least 50,000 within a year.

Mr Hiroshi Shimizu, manager of Mitsumi Computers, said in London yesterday: "We expect to bring Sinclair products to many Japanese homes before Christmas and to capture at least £3m to £4m sales in Japan's booming home computer market with this world-leading British design within the first year."

The small computer, launched this March, has sold over 100,000 units. Production is running at 40,000 a month.

If the Japanese venture is successful, Sinclair and Mitsumi intend to form a joint marketing company in Japan. Further expansion could mean manufacture in Japan.

Both partners expect that within six months they will be faced with a competitive product made in Japan.

The five month distribution agreement signed earlier this year with W. H. Smith is proving very successful. The national retailer, which is selling the ZX81 in 116 of its outlets throughout the United Kingdom has quadrupled its orders from 5,000 a month.

A mail-order deal signed by Sinclair with American Express last month is expected to boost the sales even more.

There are no plans to sell the latest version of the Sinclair design in Japan for £30 which is £20 dearer than in the United States.

Commodore which launched its personal computer, the VIC20 in London in September, will next week publish its United Kingdom trading figures for last year.

The company returned £1.8m pretax profit in the last financial year. The British arm of the company now contributes about 18 per cent of the United States company's turnover.

British 'pay too much for sugar'

By Hugh Clayton
British sugar prices are about ten per cent higher than those elsewhere in the European Economic Community, food manufacturers complained yesterday.

The Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance said: "Competition is inadequate to force British Sugar Corporation prices down to continental levels."

Mr Robert Wadsworth, president of the Alliance, said: "The Alliance's many Continental Suppliers had a surplus of sugar. He added: "In the United Kingdom, the position is different. We have one supplier privileged to process all home-grown beet-sugar."

In the past two years, British exports of sweets had shown a "disturbing decline." The Alliance, which was supported by the Cane and Cane Products Alliance, explained that its refined sugar for the food industry in five other EEC countries were all below £340 a tonne. The British list price was £362.50.

Mr Wadsworth said that competition abroad ensured that Continental companies seldom paid much above the Community floor price of £312. British companies were charged almost the British list price.

The corporation did not comment on the Alliance's complaint.

TRAINING CENTRE

A £420,000 Merseyside training centre, the idea of the task force set up by Mr Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, and local businessmen, is to be set up in Birkenhead.

The Enterprise Centre will provide 12-month training periods for up to 100 youngsters, aged from 16 to 19, plus 22 jobs for adult supervisors. It will also offer facilities for small firms, who can make use of central services, such as typing and book-keeping, provided by the business.

Most of the capital and running costs for the first year will come from the Manpower Services Commission.

Bank Base Rates

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Barclays	15 1/2 %
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The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Open	Close	YTD	Actual	YTD	Actual
114-100	ABN-Bldgs 10% CILS	110	—	10.0	9.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
76-39	Abmington Group	67.50	—	4.7	7.0	10.6	—	14.7	—	—	—
52-21	Araling & Rhodes	43	—	4.3	10.8	3.6	—	8.1	—	—	—
200-924	Barlow-ELL	133	—	9.7	5.0	9.4	—	11.4	—	—	—
104-68	Deborah Services	97	—	5.5	3.7	4.8	—	9.1	—	—	—
126-88	Frank Horsell	116	—	6.4	5.5	10.5	—	25.2	—	—	—
110-39	Frederick Parker	60	—	1.7	2.8	26.1	—	—	—	—	—
110-50	George Blair	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
102-93	IPC	96	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	—	10.4	—	—	—
113-59	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	—	6.3	—	—	—
138-103	James Burrough	109	—	8.7	8.0	8.0	—	10.0	—	—	—
324-244	Robert Jenkins	225	—	31.2	12.0	4.0	—	10.1	—	—	—
59-50	Scrutton "A"	54	—	6.3	9.8	8.3	—	7.7	—	—	—
228-187	Torday Limited	187	—	15.1	8.1	7.2	—	12.4	—	—	—
23-8	Twinkl Ord	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
90-68	Twinkl 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	13.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-34	Unilock Holdings	83	—	3.0	9.1	5.9	—	10.0	—	—	—
103-81	Walter Alexander	84	—	6.4	7.6	5.5	—	9.8	—	—	—
263-181	W. S. Yeates	225	—	13.1	5.8	4.3	—	8.7	—	—	—

Special Announcement

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P.J. Brickell, the International Sales Director for Brickell Key in Miami, Florida, USA, will be available to meet and discuss with you this exclusive condominium development from October 22nd through October 25th at the Cumberland Hotel, Brickell Key, a luxury condominium community located on a small island off downtown Miami.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rate merry-go-round goes on

Here we go again! Only eight days after the banks trimmed base rates half a point to 15½ per cent, pressure is steadily increasing for the reversal of what always looked an over-hasty move. Once more we are being tugged along by the action in Wall Street where expectations of higher rates boosted the dollar yesterday, especially against the Deutsche mark.

The rise in the Federal Funds rate to 15½ per cent, the current nervousness of sterling and shortages in the London money markets as tax payments flood in, have forced the Bank of England to hold down short period rates. Because there is no sign yet of corporate treasurers switching between market-related funds and alternative sources of bank finance, the clearing banks are able, for the moment, to take a fairly relaxed attitude towards any increase in base rates.

But if current period rates do not justify a base rate increase, the fact that they are nearly back to the levels which forced the second two point hike earlier this month, is causing concern to markets. This was reflected in the fall in equities and the gilt market yesterday as dealers cast a nervous eye across the Atlantic. The half point falls in gilts established prices at yet another five year low.

Politically, the banks will be reluctant to raise base rates and so add to industry's costs. And even under the new, flexible system under which the authorities operate the money markets, it is far more difficult for the clearers to raise rates than to cut them. Meanwhile, financial markets will welcome the news that the Chancellor is actively considering a reduction in the National Insurance surcharge. A 50 per cent cut would save industry around £1,750m a year, alleviating liquidity pressures caused in part by high financing costs.

Cons Gold Looking over the horizon

Consolidated Gold Fields' agreement with Newmont to limit the stake in the American company to no more than 26 per cent between now and the end of 1984 is an important, if unexpected development in Cons Gold's expansion plans. Since Cons Gold had originally set its heart on a minimum stake of 25 per cent, the agreement could be seen as a rebuff, especially after the momentary elation of receiving the all clear from the American regulatory authorities. Cons Gold has so far paid \$200m for 11.4 per cent of Newmont.

But looking at the situation another way, Cons Gold has acquired a strategic stake in a large American mining company and is saved the time and trouble of possibly long drawn out legal proceedings to stop it buying £181m rights issue proceeds and the £800m of credit lines is intact. There is the added advantage that so of the steam could go out of Newmont shares, making future purchases cheaper.

In any event, Cons Gold must make a virtue of necessity, and the question is where the next move will be. A 26 per cent stake in Newmont may have the advantage of equity accounting, but against that Cons Gold will need to increase its British earnings if it is to avoid the ACT problems which bedevil RTZ, for example. An acquisition, possibly industrial, in this country must therefore be a favourite area for speculation, although its room for manoeuvre in existing interests is limited by monopoly considerations.

The other two areas are the United States and Australia. But, leaving aside the ACT point, severe difficulties of the kind illustrated by the Newmont episode become evident. Identifying targets is even harder. Negotiating the regulatory authorities can be excruciating. Renzoni may be the answer, needing cash as it does, except that the Australian

minerals picture is arguably even more confused than the American. Cons Gold may have to make further enforced changes of direction before long.

Hoover The agony continues

Hoover's non-voting shares shot up 16p to 100p yesterday after it became known that it was shedding a further 2,000 workers, and closing its Art Deco factory in Perivale on London's Western Avenue. But it is one thing to close this factory and another to sell it at a decent price. There are plenty of empty factories in the same area and the Perivale plant has a preservation order on the front of it and another on parts of the inside. Hoover expects the latest streamlining to produce big savings, but it begs the question whether the group has a future manufacturing household goods at all.

The calculation, presumably, is that now the group is down to two key plants at Cambuslang in Scotland and Merthyr Tydfil for vacuum cleaners in the one and washing machines in the other, it will eventually have rock bottom costs of production. But the Italians and the East Europeans have shown what they can do in the United Kingdom market, and the Spaniards will presumably make themselves felt once inside the European Community. Hoover's United Kingdom workers have already rejected a 10 per cent wage cut. The group took yesterday's opportunity to be grim about next month's figures for the nine months to September. It lost £6m in the first half year to June, and it now has £7m of redundancy, and closure costs to pay for. Assets are £5 or so a share (according to some estimates) but there is no reason why the selling parent should oblige the stock market by buying out United Kingdom shareholders.

McKechnie Brothers

Slimming down

The drop in profits at McKechnie Brothers was much in line with expectations after the first half set-back. At the pretax level they came out at £9.3m compared with £15.5m in the year to July 1980. But the second half was a little better than anticipated with the pretax profit at £5.2m against £4.1m in the first half, helped by more stable second half interest charges.

As well as reported profits in the United Kingdom fell sharply, from £10.5m at the operating level to £3.4m so it has been left to the overseas side, especially New Zealand and Australia, where operating profits increased from £1.6m to £2.2m to save the day. To counter the problems in the United Kingdom McKechnie has slimmed down its operations, making about 1,000 redundant at a total cost of some £750,000. Now the group believes it has cut back its operations here as much as possible. There are signs in the first quarter of the current year of some improvement, but they are patchy. Demand is a little better on the semi-fabrication side, but consumer products including the Airfix acquisition are experiencing very little increase in demand.

The balance sheet however remains strong with the gearing coming to around 20 per cent at present compared with 17.9 per cent at the end of the financial year. That is a fairly comfortable position to be in, especially with stocks being run down. Although the first quarter is patchy, the trend could now be in the right direction. The shares, unchanged at 97p, are well supported by a yield of 10.7 per cent thanks to an unchanged final dividend.

Another rough ride for Volkswagen

Volkswagen, which pulled back from the edge of bankruptcy in the mid-1970s, is going through another crisis.

The group's net profit slumped to a mere 15m Deutsche marks (about £3.6m) in the first half of this year and, although the figures are nowhere near as bad as those recorded in 1974 and 1975 (when the losses totalled DM157m and DM157m respectively), the decline in the company's fortunes is likely to claim its first prominent victim.

For the past week it has been rumoured that Professor Friedrich Thome, Volkswagen's director of finance and the second ranking man on the company's managing board, may be about to resign.

A decision is thought to be imminent. Professor Thome, who is at present on holiday, has been running the group since its chief executive Herr Toni Schmücker had a heart attack early in the summer.

Besides the strain of deputising for Herr Schmücker, Herr Thome has had to preside over the company at a period when its deterioration in profitability has become abundantly apparent.

He has been held largely responsible for the heavy losses incurred by the group's Triumph-Adler subsidiary, this company, which represented Volkswagen's first diversification away from cars, makes small computers and typewriters. It is thought to have lost Volkswagen's biggest problem is its Brazilian subsidiary. Over the first nine months of this year the subsidiary's sales fell by nearly 40 per cent, while on the Brazilian car market alone there was a 47.5 per cent drop in Volkswagen registrations.

The full impact of Brazil's economic stabilization policy hit the group this year. Faced with a huge balance of payments deficit and rampant

inflation, the Brazilian authorities switched to a thorough-going policy of austerity. The most prominent victim has been the country's motor industry, in which Volkswagen occupies the leading slot. Capacity use at the plants of Volkswagen Brazil is reported to have fallen to about 35 per cent, with as yet incalculable consequences for profitability.

Sales in North America have been hit by high interest rates and generous discounts offered by rival American and Japanese producers. Although over the first half of the year Volkswagen was able to maintain its overall sales level compared with the same period in 1980, it stopped production at its Westmoreland plant for a week at the beginning of June and reduced daily production by 100 units to 940. While the company still has faith in the medium to long-term future, the subsidiary in the United States will be hard pressed to improve on last year's result when it turned in a loss of \$30m.

In West Germany, Volkswagen expects to lose half a percentage point of its market share this year. Group sales were shared by 6.8 per cent until the end of September.

Although the shock effect of Japan's challenge has receded somewhat since 1980, when the Japanese raised their share of the German market to 10.4 per cent from 5.6 per cent the previous year, the company is still suffering the long-term effects of this rivalry.

According to Dr Werner P. Schmidt, a member of Volkswagen's managing board, the group could have expected a market share of between 34 and 35 per cent in Germany compared with the present level of 29.5 per cent had it not been for Japanese imports. According to Dr Schmidt, Volkswagen and its Audi subsidiary losses four

watercooled cars that replaced the rear engine, air-cooled "Beetle" model in the mid-seventies. The group is now in the throes of replacing this range with a third generation of cars in an attempt to reestablish a competitive edge over its rivals.

But whereas it was able to slim significantly in the years of crisis that accompanied the demise of the Beetle, it is at present carrying a lot of fat. This takes the form of a greatly increased worldwide workforce that was accumulated in the late 1970s, when Volkswagen was awash with liquid capital, and there appeared to be no constraint on its new prosperity.

Perhaps Volkswagen's biggest problem is its Brazilian subsidiary. Over the first nine months of this year the subsidiary's sales fell by nearly 40 per cent, while on the Brazilian car market alone there was a 47.5 per cent drop in Volkswagen registrations.

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Volkswagen cars dominate the Avenida Prestes Maia in Sao Paulo, Brazil: but the Brazilian operation now is causing severe problems.

sales for every 10 Japanese cars sold on the West German market.

The problem would have been far less serious for the group if it had been able to control the expansion of its labour force and the rise in personnel expenses.

As the world pulled out of the recession caused by the first oil crisis, the group's annual car production began to increase. It jumped from 2.17 million units made in 1976 to 2.57 million — an increase of just 19 per cent in 1980. But the group's worldwide work force rose at the same time by 41 per cent to 253,000.

Meantime it has become increasingly difficult to shed labour, particularly in West Germany. The row over the planned closure of the Triumph-Adler plant in Frank-

furt showed that redundancy is now an issue that brings people to the streets.

The Volkswagen board will therefore face great difficulty in bringing the company back to prosperity. Its problems are made no easier by the uncertainty that surrounds the health of Herr Schmücker.

But the group can point to some plus points that means that it is far from being a lame duck. It has invested heavily over the past few years and one result is a constant flow of new models on to the market.

Finally the car market itself may be beginning to recover. West German Motor production rose on a year to year basis for the first time in two years last month when output of cars and commercial vehicles slumped by 7 per cent to 371,600 units.

Technology

Letting scientists loose in the park

Visions of Silicon Valley, Research Triangle Park and Route 128 America's great science parks, are suddenly striking Britain's universities and local authorities.

All over the country plans are being announced for new science parks, where small companies with large growth potential can do the research and development that will launch them (and their host districts) into industrial success. Microelectronics, computers, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology are the favoured subjects.

Projects announced in the past few weeks include the West of Scotland Science Park, Glasgow (proposed by the Scottish Development Agency with Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities), the University of Surrey Research Park, Guildford, Upton Science Park (Wirral Borough Council), and Birmingham's Science and Technology Development Centre (Birmingham City Council with Aston University).

Several other parks are under discussion between local government and universities, including Salford and Swansea, and two other possible partnerships in the West Midlands (Country Council and Warwick University, and the West Midlands County Council and Birmingham University).

All these proposals will start off on a fairly modest scale. Birmingham City Council has allocated £2.5m for its centre, which will be located initially on 3.5 acres of derelict land next to the Aston campus. (Recognising the physical reality of their site, the Birmingham organisers

have not actually called their project a science park.) The Scottish Development Agency is expected to spend a total of £6m on its Maryhill Road site, which will have a "parkland character" like its American prototypes.

The park promoters' plan for future growth are less modest, though. Mr Clive Wilkinson, the leader of Birmingham City Council, says his project will eventually create 5,000 jobs directly and another 15,000 indirectly. The Labour-controlled council has 300 acres of undeveloped land on the edge of Birmingham available for expansion by firms that can grow the park's original site and it is prepared to spend £40m eventually on development work.

Mr Wilkinson and Professor Frederick Crawford of Aston University, see the enterprise as a key factor to counteract Birmingham's economic decline. Professor Crawford, who recently returned to Britain after spending 21 years at Stanford University, California, knows first hand how small electronics companies started up on Stanford Industrial Park in the 1960s and exploded into the surrounding districts.

However, it is important to remember that the well-known American examples like Stanford Industrial Park and Research Triangle Park (North Carolina) represent the pinnacle of success. The United States has well over 100 research parks and science parks of various sorts and some are expensive green elephants, which have failed to attract high technology

entrepreneurs and are half-filled with miscellaneous small firms, which are well below on any light industrial estate.

Britain has had too little experience with science parks for any objective judgments to be made. The likelihood of widespread success here. Three small science research parks were set up in 1973-74 — in Cambridge, Watlington and Edinburgh. Heriot-Watt Park has had the ambitions of the funding behind some of this year's proposals.

The progress of the pioneering trio has been modestly encouraging. Milton Science Park, which Trinity College is developing on the edge of Cambridge, has 22 tenants already and is launching confidently into the third phase of its development.

Heriot-Watt Park has only six tenants so far, including Edinburgh Instruments and the Syntax Research Centre (pharmaceuticals), but university officials seem pleased with the interaction between companies and academics and they are planning to expand.

In a proper science of research park the rules allow companies to undertake research and development only. That may be stretched to include prototyping on a prototype or pilot scale but large-scale production is forbidden. Of course, if there is a sponsoring local authority it will try to persuade the firm to include prototyping on a prototype or pilot scale but large-scale production is forbidden. Of course, if there is a sponsoring local authority it will try to persuade the firm to include prototyping on a prototype or pilot scale but large-scale production is forbidden.

Why then might a young entrepreneur want to start an electronics company on a

science park rather than on an ordinary light industrial estate? There may be some shared research facilities that would not normally be available, but the park advocates' main argument is the intellectual atmosphere. It being more conducive to successful innovation if you are surrounded by other researchers on a well landscaped park.

Tenants on the research park are also supposed to benefit from intellectual contact with academics from the sponsoring university, who are encouraged to become part-time consultants. The normal rule in British and American universities is that staff may spend one day a week working for industry.

However, if the science park idea is to take off in Britain as successfully as it has in the United States, we need academics to go further than just acting as consultants. They will need to discover an entrepreneurial spirit that has so far been

missing in our universities. A large number of American academics have got together with local businessmen and venture capitalists to found small electronics and biotechnology companies, which they serve as part-time directors.

Opportunities for Britain's professors to go into business have never been better. Not only are science parks being set up around our universities, but the British Technology Group — the government body responsible for fostering technological innovation — has a new policy of encouraging academic entrepreneurs.

The BTG is giving away £130,000 in prize money to university and polytechnic teachers who set up companies to exploit their research results and will consider investing up to £250,000 in the most promising enterprises.

Clive Cookson

ORANGE FREE STATE GOLD MINING COMPANIES

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FINAL DIVIDENDS—FINANCIAL YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1981

On October 22 1981 dividends were declared in South African currency, payable to members registered in the books of the undermentioned companies at the transfer secretaries on or about December 10 1981. Registered members should send to the transfer secretaries the relevant coupons marked "South Africa", detached from sharestock warrants to bearer.

The transfer registers and registers of members will be closed in each case from November 7 to November 20 1981, both days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on or about December 10 1981. Registered members should send to the transfer secretaries the relevant coupons marked "South Africa", detached from sharestock warrants to bearer.

Process of dividends in respect of coupons marked "South Africa" may, at the request of the depositors, be converted through an authorised dealer in exchange in the Republic of South Africa into any currency, the effective rate of exchange for conversion into any such currency will be that prevailing at the time the proceeds of the dividends are deposited with the authorised dealer in exchange.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax for all the undermentioned companies is 15 per cent.

The dividends are payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the Johannesburg and London offices of the companies and also at the offices of the companies' transfer secretaries in Johannesburg and the United Kingdom.

Name of company (each of which is incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)	Dividend No.	Coupons marked "South Africa"	Dividend per share/100 of stock
Free State Gold Mines Limited	49	50	245 cents
President Brand Gold Mining Company Limited	51	55	300 cents
President Brand Gold Mining Company Limited	53	54	245 cents
Western Holdings Limited	53	—	350 cents

By order of the boards
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
Secretaries
per R. S. EDWARDS
Divisional Secretary

Transfer Secretaries
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited
62 Marshall Street
Johannesburg
2001
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2107)

Charter Consolidated P.L.C.
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Business Diary in Italy: Postcards from Latium

Ninfa

To the south-west lies Anzio and due east Cassino, both names burned into English recollection. From Ninfa, however, comes a wartime story of happier memory.

Overlooking Ninfa is the Castello Serravalle, which is where some of the BBC television series *The Borgias* was filmed.

The custodian of the castello is an Englishman, Hubert Howard, president of the Caetani family foundation. It is a family that produced two Popes (Gelasius II and Boniface VIII) and was once expelled from the castle (and some were killed) by the Borgia Pope, Alexander VI.

Howard told me that he was in military intelligence when, after the liberation of Rome, he was detailed to take General "Boy" Browning for some trout fishing at Ninfa. The general caught some trout, and Howard caught himself a wife, the late Lella, last Duchess of Serravalle. With the TV series the Caetani at least got some good from the Borgias.

Latina

The day I met Gilberto Braha, whose firm is Italy's biggest canner of sardines, he was

resigned to his country's being knocked out of the World Cup that afternoon by the Yugoslavs.

As it happened, the Italians held the team from the other side of the Adriatic to a 1:1 draw. Would that business dealings between the two countries were so agreeably concluded.

"I talked to the Yugoslavs about a joint deal once," Braha told me. "they have some fine, fat fish in their waters."

He went on: "First they said 'We have 51 per cent of the company and you 49 per cent.' I said 'O.K.' Then they said 'You put up all the money.' I said 'O.K.' Then they said 'All the fish are landed at Yugoslav ports and processed inland.'"

"I said 'Ciao.' It wasn't on the fish would have had to be unloaded, frozen, and they would have just been too expensive."

Not that the Yugoslavs necessarily get the best sardines anyway, I was told by Braha, who was at LSE and whose firm, ILIO exports own-label fish for John West, Prince's, Sainsbury and Waitrose.

Braha, said: "I spoke to this Yugoslav captain who was pulling up the small fish and I said 'Why are you doing this when there are bigger fish just five miles away?'"



Space shot: anti-terrorist guard at the gate to the Fucino "earth station".

"He said 'Why bother? I get paid the same whether I bring back big fish or small.'"

Fucino

There was some difficulty at first in establishing communication with the Telespazio satellite telecommunications centre, the world's largest, which lies here in the hills above Rome.

As we wound up the lanes towards the Abruzzi mountains the Italian driver had to stop no less than five times to ask the way. In each case he sought the help of representatives of a much older, pre-electronic industry — the sugar beet farmers who were taking carloads of the stuff to a local plant.

At last we got on to the

right beat and sped on to Fucino, dodging the fallen sugar beet with which the roads were strewn, much as the crew of the starship Enterprise might avoid a cloud of meteors.

Although this is a commercial and not a military station, we drove in through the gates past an armed guard. Some what disappointingly he was poking at us not a laser gun, but a rather mundane, if still disconcerting, carbine.

More disappointment lay in store, however, when I came to see for myself whether, as on the Enterprise — whose innards the Fucino control rooms resemble — the Telespazio consoles would also be operated by lots of ladies in the almost-drift.

Giorgio Lombardi, of Teles-

pazio's commercial department explained the absence of women by saying that the "earth station" staff worked shifts 24 hours a day and Italian women were by law not allowed to work at night.

This sounded like waffle to me, for why could not the women just work day shifts?

But then Lombardi added that so isolated and so full of quiet corners were the control rooms that with women around it might be difficult to keep the minds of Italian men upon their azimuths. That sounded more like it to me.

Fiuggi

Fiuggi, a spa in the Abruzzi, is north-west of Cassino and Cassino is in turn the ances-

tral stamping ground of Sir Charles Forte, founder of THF, but also that of the family Mauch.

Gaetano Scocchi, who owns the Silva Splendid and San Marco hotels in Fiuggi, told me that his grandmother was Rosa Forte, the wife of Sir Charles. Like the Fortes, Marco and Rosa opened a cafe in Scotland (in Falkirk).

It was with abo. more from Scots fish and chips that Marco returned with son Giuseppe before the war and bought an old inn at Fiuggi. Giuseppe's son Gaetano built the smooth Silva Splendid on the site, for Italians who come for conventions or to take the waters.

Gaetano, who read law at Bristol, told me that he is cheered by talk of reopening Bath as a spa because it might make Britons spa-conscious once more and send some of them Fiuggi's way.

Spaghetti joke from Rome: H. J. Heinz's Tony O'Reilly annoys fans when, about to play for Ireland in a rugged international, he is driven up to the ground in a big car. The game starts and one supporter yells "Kick the ****!" Bauls another. "And kick his **** chauffeur, too!"

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS

Jeavons Engineering on target

By Catherine Gunn

First-half results from Jeavons Engineering are on target at £306,000 pre-tax—down 38 per cent—and the group still expects to meet a profit forecast of not less than £575,000 pre-tax for the year to December 31, Mr Terry Maher, chairman, said yesterday.

When 60 per cent of Jeavons was floated off by parent company Pentos in August at 62p a share, the sub-underwriters were left with just over two-thirds of the issue. The shares were 45p, down 2p, yesterday. Directors own 66,000 shares, 1.2 per cent of the issued capital. Many of them borrowed to subscribe for the shares at 62p, Mr Maher said.

In 1980 Jeavons made £932,000 pre-tax, and £493,000 of that in the six months to June 30. "We see recovery from next year onwards," Mr Maher said yesterday. "In engineering terms I think Jeavons's performance is exceptional, given that it is in the United Kingdom."

Sales in the first half were £2.8m against £3.5m. A dividend of 1.5p gross will be paid at the end of December and a final of the same will be paid in respect of 1981, in mid-1982.

Mr Maher said Jeavons still has very little debt and £2m of net assets, as shown in the August prospectus. It plans to expand its exports of gas reg-

lators and couplings world wide.

At the moment exports provide up to 15 per cent of sales of gas regulators, and over a quarter of turnover from couplings. It also plans to increase its market share here. "Jeavons is the kind of company which, in its field, can be acquisitive, taking a two-year view," Mr Maher said. However, there will be no moves this year.

Demand for gas regulators is now showing faint signs of improvement. In couplings, export orders are encouraging and there has been a pick-up in business for pressure market in recent weeks. But the group's big Tipton factory is still on four-day working.



Mr Terry Maher, chairman of Jeavons Engineering

Modest rise at Photax in difficult half

Photax, (London), which makes and imports photographic equipment, increased its pretax profits by £3,000 to £251,000 in the six months to June 30, despite a rough UK market. The improvement reflects a 6.9 per cent rise in sales to £2.7m.

Most of Photax's imports come from Germany and Japan and a weaker pound against these currencies pushed their sterling prices up when retail demand here was slipping.

The first-half dividend has been maintained at 2.14p gross. Last year's total payout was 5p gross.

Mr E. Jacobs, who heads Photax, says efforts to contain costs and improve competitiveness continue. Trading conditions are still worsening, but overdrafts have fallen slightly from the year-end level of £252,000.

Wm Low shuts its fast food lossmaker

By Our Financial Staff

The Dundee-based supermarket group Wm Low has closed its troubled fast food subsidiary, Lowfoods, after suffering heavy losses that have resulted in an 18.6 per cent drop in group profits for 1980-81.

Lowfoods operates the MacTarties outlets in Glasgow and Edinburgh, the first of which opened little more than a year ago.

The group's full year-figures to September 5 include an extraordinary debt of £645,000, which it says relates to the closure of Lowfoods. The subsidiary lost £225,000 in the first half.

Full-year group pretax profit was £1.8m, down from £2.4m for 1979-80.

Turnover rose by 15.2 per cent to £109.2m from £94.8m.

The group had planned to invest £2m over three years in the fast food business. Like others trying to make the jump from retailing, Wm Low has found fast food a difficult sector to enter.

The investment is now being diverted into its supermarket and freezer centres side.

It opened two superstores during the year and continued its policy of replacing older, smaller outlets with larger ones. A supermarket is due to be opened in Grangemouth later this year and another freezer centre in Falkirk.

The group says that although it is in the middle of a substantial long-term investment programme, profits in the coming year are going to be squeezed by rising costs and substantial interest charges.

Brown & Jackson rights issue

Brown & Jackson is raising £1.33m with a 1-for-2 rights issue at 20p.

The effect of the issue will be to reduce borrowings of the holding company expressed as a proportion of its shareholders' funds, from about 40 per cent to 21 per cent.

Conditions in the second half continue to be difficult and margins remain depressed. So long as the recession continues, it is unlikely that there will be any significant improvement in overall profitability, but the board hope that trading prospects will quickly revive when economic conditions improve.

Gold and Base Metal

Gold and Base Metal Mines halved its loss to £6,000 in the half year to June 30. Apart from the balance of the 1974 dividend received during the period, no sums have been received in respect of past dividends or from the sale of the company's Nigerian investment. However, negotiations to achieve early repatriation of these amounts are continuing.

It is not possible to predict the outcome of negotiations, but the board remains hopeful that further permission will be received to repatriate the sums due.

Fudhorn Finance

Fudhorn Finance has raised its dividend from 2.14p to 2.25p gross for the year to July 31. Turnover was £17m against £15.6m. Pretax profits rose from £243,000 to £286,000. The CCA pretax profit was £143,000.

Tomatin Distillers owns 300,000 of the company's shares (40 per cent) and a subsidiary of Arbroath Latham Holdings owns 63,200 shares (8.7 per cent).

Same Darby

Same Darby, the Malaysian-based international trading and manufacturing group, has made another big leap into the motor business in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, with the signing in London of an agreement for a new joint-venture company between Pemas Same Darby Holdings, a Same Darby associate managed by the group, and Land Rover.

Tyzack up 29 pc

W. Tyzack, Sons and Turner raised its pretax profits by 29 per cent to £93,000 in the year to August 1 on sales up from £4.6m to £4.7m. The dividend was held at 1.43p gross, excluding the special payment of 2.14p made last year.

Mr T. H. Read, chairman, says costs were contained. The number of employees was reduced by 38, as the group was assisted by a favourable rate of exchange in the United States, and sales during the second half were some 35 per cent higher than in first half.

Elliott Group

The Board of Elliott Group of Peterborough strongly recommends shareholders to take no action in connection with the approach from Jenks & Cartell. The board will make a further announcement as soon as possible.

Selincourt down 55 pc midway but payout held

By Our Financial Staff

Selincourt, the textile and garment manufacturer which owns the Jacquard scarves label, saw its pretax profits for the six months to end-July fall to £202,000 from £452,000 a year earlier, a drop of 55.3 per cent. Turnover dipped by just over 3 per cent from £29.5m to £28.7m.

The interim dividend is being maintained at 0.63p gross per share on recovery hopes, and the shares closed 1p higher at 11p.

Mr Lionel Leighton, chairman of Selincourt, says that further measures are being taken to streamline group operations over and above those taken last year. "It was a disappointment that the worsening of the trading climate both in the United Kingdom and Western Europe has delayed benefits of the progressive improvement in the underlying strength of the group working through into profits," he said.

Mr Roger Bartlett, finance director, estimates that the group's recovery programme is running six months behind schedule. The group is forecasting cautious improvement in the second half, although it gives warning of the effects of recent rises in interest rates. Interest charges for the first half of 1981 were £1.2m, down from £1.4m a year earlier.

The group says its first-half figures were particularly hit by a women's underwear period piece, which was cancelled by its merchant converting company, Walker and Rich, and by the effects of the run-up to the French presidential election and subsequent events on its French subsidiary, Perfumance by its merchant converting company, Walker and Rich, and by the effects of the run-up to the French presidential election and subsequent events on its French subsidiary, Perfumance.

Earnings per share for the first half dropped to 0.23p from 0.69p a year earlier.



Mr Lionel Leighton, chairman of Selincourt

Two groups to acquire stakes in Abwood

Abwood Machine Tools is acquiring two big new shareholders and a new non-executive chairman, as part of a major restructuring. The company, which is a subsidiary of Wilkinson Machine Tools, is being acquired by two groups: one led by Mr Randolph, who will take up the appointment after the completion of an £80,000 cash-for-shares injection by investment group, Wilkinson Investments, which will leave it with a 32 per cent stake in Abwood.

In addition, Brown Shipley Developments, Merchant Bankers, are to subscribe for £40,000 worth of preference shares which, when converted, will give them 12 per cent.

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MARKET REPORTS

Wall Street

New York, Oct. 22—Stocks were mostly flat in the Dow Jones industrial average, which was down 0.18 points to 1,042.75. The market was characterized by a lack of direction, with some sectors showing gains while others fell.

Stock	Price	Change	Stock	Price	Change
Alcoa	48 1/4	+1/4	General Electric	41 1/4	+1/4
Amstar	25 1/4	+1/4	International Paper	38 1/4	+1/4
Armco	28 1/4	+1/4	Johnson & Johnson	52 1/4	+1/4
Avco	22 1/4	+1/4	Kimberly-Clark	35 1/4	+1/4
Baker Hughes	18 1/4	+1/4	McDonald's	28 1/4	+1/4
Boeing	45 1/4	+1/4	Merck & Co.	42 1/4	+1/4
Chrysler	24 1/4	+1/4	Novartis	38 1/4	+1/4
DuPont	32 1/4	+1/4	Pfizer	35 1/4	+1/4
Eastman	28 1/4	+1/4	Roche	32 1/4	+1/4
Exxon	42 1/4	+1/4	Schering	30 1/4	+1/4
Ford	26 1/4	+1/4	Schleicher & Scheller	28 1/4	+1/4
General Motors	22 1/4	+1/4	Siemens	35 1/4	+1/4
Hewlett-Packard	38 1/4	+1/4	Spaeth	25 1/4	+1/4
IBM	52 1/4	+1/4	Union Carbide	32 1/4	+1/4
Intel	45 1/4	+1/4	Wendel	28 1/4	+1/4
Kodak	35 1/4	+1/4	Weyerhaeuser	30 1/4	+1/4
Lincoln	25 1/4	+1/4	Wm. Wrigley	32 1/4	+1/4
Lockheed	48 1/4	+1/4	Yale	28 1/4	+1/4
McDonald's	28 1/4	+1/4			
Merck & Co.	42 1/4	+1/4			
Novartis	38 1/4	+1/4			
Pfizer	35 1/4	+1/4			
Roche	32 1/4	+1/4			
Schering	30 1/4	+1/4			
Schleicher & Scheller	28 1/4	+1/4			
Siemens	35 1/4	+1/4			
Spaeth	25 1/4	+1/4			
Union Carbide	32 1/4	+1/4			
Wendel	28 1/4	+1/4			
Weyerhaeuser	30 1/4	+1/4			
Wm. Wrigley	32 1/4	+1/4			
Yale	28 1/4	+1/4			

Commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Copper	1.85	+0.01
Gold	380.00	+0.00
Silver	15.00	+0.01
Platinum	1,200.00	+0.00
Aluminum	1.10	+0.01
Iron Ore	100.00	+0.00
Crude Oil	25.00	+0.01
Natural Gas	1.50	+0.01
Wheat	1.20	+0.01
Corn	1.10	+0.01
Soybeans	1.30	+0.01
Cotton	1.40	+0.01
Wool	1.50	+0.01
Rubber	1.60	+0.01
Sugar	1.70	+0.01
Cocoa	1.80	+0.01
Spices	1.90	+0.01
Metals	2.00	+0.01
Grains	2.10	+0.01
Oilseeds	2.20	+0.01
Textiles	2.30	+0.01
Leather	2.40	+0.01
Timber	2.50	+0.01
Stone	2.60	+0.01
Clay	2.70	+0.01
Brick	2.80	+0.01
Glass	2.90	+0.01
Paper	3.00	+0.01
Chemicals	3.10	+0.01
Pharmaceuticals	3.20	+0.01
Medical Devices	3.30	+0.01
Foodstuffs	3.40	+0.01
Alcoholic Beverages	3.50	+0.01
Tobacco	3.60	+0.01
Drugs	3.70	+0.01
Healthcare	3.80	+0.01
Technology	3.90	+0.01
Telecommunications	4.00	+0.01
Transportation	4.10	+0.01
Energy	4.20	+0.01
Utilities	4.30	+0.01
Real Estate	4.40	+0.01
Insurance	4.50	+0.01
Banking	4.60	+0.01
Finance	4.70	+0.01
Law	4.80	+0.01
Education	4.90	+0.01
Research	5.00	+0.01
Development	5.10	+0.01
Construction	5.20	+0.01
Manufacturing	5.30	+0.01
Retail	5.40	+0.01
Wholesale	5.50	+0.01
Import/Export	5.60	+0.01
Shipping	5.70	+0.01
Logistics	5.80	+0.01
Supply Chain	5.90	+0.01
Procurement	6.00	+0.01
Inventory	6.10	+0.01
Production	6.20	+0.01
Distribution	6.30	+0.01
Marketing	6.40	+0.01
Sales	6.50	+0.01
Customer Service	6.60	+0.01
Support	6.70	+0.01
Operations	6.80	+0.01
Management	6.90	+0.01
Leadership	7.00	+0.01

Rugby Union: two views of the referee's role in curbing violence

Enforcing rules in an unruly world

Violence is rife throughout the country, says one of the referees. It is a hard game and, without strict self-discipline and recognition that the referee's word is law, violence can erupt at any time.

Those words were spoken recently in Newcastle upon Tyne by Kenneth Lockrie, who has been elected president of the Rugby Union in the North-East of England and among the leading dozen in the United Kingdom. Tomorrow is an important day for Gostorth, who are staging the game between the Northern Division and the Australians.



Kenneth Lockrie: "give players a fair hearing"

Many club presidents make statements about disorderly conduct on the field (and, sadly, off it in such places as clubs and hotels). However, Mr. Lockrie is better qualified than most to be heard and then referred to first-class rugby for about 30 years, has experience of refereeing in New Zealand, and has had a leading part in coaching the West England and Wales teams in the United Kingdom. He practices as a solicitor in Jarrold and lives in Gostorth.

"I believe we shall continue to have violence on the field, or at least violent acts, as long as we live in a violent world," he said. "The whole structure of society has got to be changed, though I wish to know how. There is a general lack of discipline and respect for authority everywhere else, it is irrational to expect to find it in sport and especially in hard physical contact sports."

Edward Grayson, a London barrister, comments in his book *Sport and the Law* that during the past decade there has been sufficient increase in violence for criminal proceedings to be taken more often than before 1970, notably in England and Wales. He makes the point that there is a great difference between the foul tackle leading to serious injury and the ruckler has accidentally slipped to mud, and that when the ruckler has set out deliberately to injure an opponent.

Mr. Grayson says: "No one wishes to see the courts crammed with sportsmen on trial, but it must be brought home that there is no difference in criminal law between kicking a man on the pavement and kicking him deliberately on a playing field."

Gostorth's secretary for three years, he took charge of the 1977 match between the Newcastle side and Boston. Before Boston went home he ran coaching sessions for the players and was then invited to visit the United States and coach their leading referees.

"With permission from Twickenham I was happy to have a go and in fact made four visits in all and covered parts of New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Hampshire. Frankly, the standard was very low, but both players and referees are improving. One of their problems is that they are very short of experienced, knowledgeable officials."

"There are desperately keen to learn though, I found, but there is something of a paradox. In many cases players (and referees) have to put up with primitive conditions, sometimes even erecting their own posts and playing three matches on the same day before taking them down again. Yet there is a lot of discipline, and referees are in for quite a bit of verbal abuse."

American players are, he says, "extremely fit and make up in fitness to an extent for what they lack in technique". He is convinced that when they have been properly taught and coached over several years they could be equal to any side in the world, at club and international level.

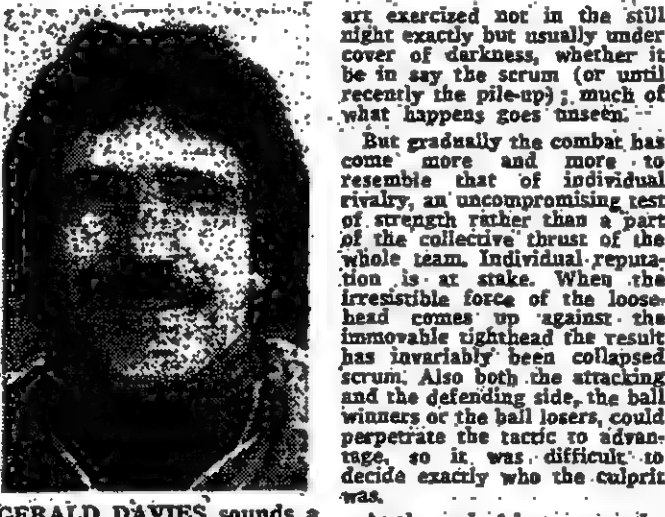
"There is a new breed of referee coming through in the States," Mr. Lockrie said. "He is a young and dedicated man and in a sense, although not of course financially, a professional. I believe this will be the pattern in Britain too with young referees coming through in the same way. The important thing is controlling the important matches, rather than officials in their forties who may be slightly less fit and possibly just that bit more out of touch with the game when it is a much better idea to have coaches for referees, instead of examiners?"

Iain Mackenzie

Collapsed scrums and impropriety of props

In the recent Cardiff-Brigend match Clive Norling, the Welsh Rugby Union International referee, gave marching orders to two of the players, the scrum-half and the scrum-half.

The offence was that of constantly and wilfully collapsing the scrum, a problem which has become a regular occurrence in rugby matches.



GERALD DAVIES sounds a warning

It is a play which, although illegal, has become so common an occurrence as to lead to the conclusion that both coach and player are culpable in believing that it is an acceptable and legitimate tactic. The players left the field amid some consternation among those members of the crowd who felt that they had been unjustly dealt with. Referred to as the scrum-half, he was the most of the scrum-half once again.

It is to be hoped that the players themselves were not deceived by this and in the quiet of their dressing-rooms were able to reflect usefully on the nature of the tactics which can result in permanent damage.

In his forthright manner Norling faced this problem head-on and he admitted afterwards that he is no longer going to allow players to continue to use this practice in any game which comes under his jurisdiction; he has no desire to be a part of a game which increases the potential for serious and damaging injury.

art exercised not in the still exactly but usually under cover of darkness, whether it be in the scrum (or until the referee has intervened) or what happens goes unrecorded.

But gradually the combat has come more and more to resemble that of individual rivalry, an uncompromising test of strength rather than a part of the collective thrust of the whole team. Individual reputation is at stake. When the irresistible force of the loosehead comes up against the immovable object of the scrum-half, the scrum-half has invariably been collapsed. Also both the attacking and the defending side, the ball winners or the ball losers, could perpetrate the tactic to advantage. It is difficult to decide exactly who the culprit was.

At the end of last season the International Board made an amendment to the law governing the binding of the prop forwards. The amendment was made during the summer coaching courses. The original formulation stated that "the tighthead prop must bid his opposing loosehead prop with his right arm over the top of the loosehead's shoulder or the loosehead prop must bid his opposing tighthead prop with his left arm over the top of the tighthead's shoulder".

Rugby Union

Shaw leads the Australian return in strength

Tony Shaw, the captain, leading the Australian team for the third time against Northern Division at Gostorth tomorrow. Shaw, who stood down last week's 19-12 win over Oxford University, leads a near international-strength pack in what is only a second round of the cup competition. The flanker who scored two tries as a stand-in hooker against the University.

For the record

Golf

WIMBLEDON: World Under-25 champion, Peter Senior (Australia) won the 1981 tournament. Senior, 21, defeated the runner-up, Peter Senior (Australia), 1-0.

Hockey

IHF president's warning on the World Cup

HONGKONG, Oct. 22—The International Hockey Federation president, Rene Frank, warned here today that the 1982 World Cup tournament would be held in Bombay in December is cancelled.

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Football

New Mersey sound is a hiccup or two

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

The European Cup will be reduced to eight clubs on November 4 and, after the outcome of the first legs on Wednesday night, England are still likely to be represented by two clubs, Aston Villa and Liverpool. The English champions, should maintain their advantage over Dynamo Dresden and Liverpool, the cup holders, entering the quarter-finals for the fifth time.

Alkmaar, who walked away with the Dutch title last season, will be the twenty-third visitors to the stadium in the quarter-finals. After the 2-2 draw they need to win a result achieved by only one other side, in 1973 Red Bull Salzburg took both legs by a score of 2-1 in the second round.

Over an unbroken run of 17 years in European competitions, Liverpool have lost only three times at home. The other two conquerors were Ferencváros in 1967 and Leeds United in 1970, both in the first round. Liverpool, both by the same margin, 1-0. These cold statistics will do anything to warm the hearts of the Dutchmen.

Yet Alkmaar have a chance that has seemed unthinkable. As Tottenham Hotspur did in the Cup Winners' Cup against Ajax last month, Liverpool took control in the second leg. In the first leg, Liverpool took a comfortable lead with goals from Kust and van der Meer. As it was, Alkmaar were allowed to steal back in with goals from Kust and van der Meer. As it was, Alkmaar were allowed to steal back in with goals from Kust and van der Meer.

Healthy Villa adjustment to demands of European game

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

When Aston Villa won the championship last season, they were still considered too limited to savour much success in the more varied fields of European football. They have now done enough to repudiate the suggestion, but in Wednesday's 2-1 victory over Dynamo Dresden, they made a defiant statement.

For a team without deep European Cup experience, and not at all averse to a second round first leg in the hallowed atmosphere created by the famous Villa Road, they have been a sight to behold. It was all very well being told that Nottingham Forest, who won the previous year, were the only team to have been dropped early in the second round. That, if anything, was another threat.

Gould's new appointment

Aldershot's assistant manager

Bobby Gould, became Bristol Rovers' fifth manager inside five years yesterday. The 40-year-old former England and Leeds full back who was dismissed on Monday, Mr. Gould turned down a £10,000-a-year offer to become assistant manager to Geoff Hurst at Chelsea.

One of his first jobs at Bristol Rovers will be to assist Gary Mabbutt, the talented utility player who captained the England youth side last season. Gould will be assisted by Martin Thomas. Failure to do so, to ease bank pressure, cost Mr. Cooper his job.

Rugby League

Wiggings is as good as a ban

By Keith Macklin

The case of the wandering wig, or the tale of the treacherously taken toupee, has resulted in a player being suspended by his club. When Geoff Fletcher, player-coach of Huddersfield, returned with his team to the dressing room after last Sunday's John Player Trophy game, narrowly won by Huddersfield, he discovered that someone had removed his toupee from his head.

The culprit was later discovered to be Graham Swale, a three-quarter, with the Huddersfield club, who had been dropped for the match. So incensed were the officials, and indeed the team members, of the Huddersfield club at such a breach of sporting etiquette that Swale has been suspended for six months.

Spanish for Green

Dave Green meets the former

Light-middling champion of Spain, Jose Pacheco, over 10 rounds at the Albert Hall on November 3. The British lightweight champion, who has been suspended for six months, will be in a strong position to win the title.

Today's fixtures

Rugby League

WIMBLEDON: World Under-25 champion, Peter Senior (Australia) won the 1981 tournament. Senior, 21, defeated the runner-up, Peter Senior (Australia), 1-0.

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Soviet group said to be in Botswana

The first group of an unknown number of Russian military advisers has arrived in Botswana, the South African newspaper Beeld reports. About a month ago Russian-made armoured vehicles, weapons, and other military equipment were shipped to the country after being shipped to Mozambique. Page 5

Metro men earn record bonus

A record 4,706 Metro cars were produced at B.L.'s Longbridge plant this week, earning the 15,000 workers their biggest bonus yet of £21.38. Meanwhile, company executives hope that informal soundings of union leaders over the weekend will help to avert the threatened strike of manual workers. Page 2



Salvation Army chooses leader

Commissioner Jarl Wahlström, Salvation Army Territorial Commander for Sweden, with a Camper Garland yesterday after he was elected as the movement's next leader. He will succeed General Arnold Brown, who retires next year. Commissioner Wahlström, aged 63, joined the Salvation Army in 1938.

Police guard for Zubin Mehta

Zubin Mehta, the Indian-born musical director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, was under special police guard earlier this week after he tried to break the unofficial Israeli ban on public performances of Richard Wagner's music. There were scuffles at two concerts when he conducted the orchestra in the Proms to Tristan and Isolde, and plans to stage Israel's first Wagner concert yesterday were abandoned. Interview, page 6

Labour blocks farm deal

A Labour Party subcommittee has rejected a proposed new law which the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association hoped would make more tenant farms available. The Government refuses to support the proposal until all Opposition parties have accepted it. Page 3

Kyprianou meets Greek leader

Mr. Andreas Papandreu, Greece's first Socialist Prime Minister, has held talks with President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus who is visiting Athens to find out which of the new Government's campaign promises on Cyprus are to become official policy. Mr. Papandreu has accepted an invitation to Cyprus. Page 4

Whitehall loses

The Government appears to have conceded defeat in the battle in its financial war with local councils. Rate support grant figures are being revised, and ministers have accepted that councils cannot cut their spending to meet the target for 1982-83. Page 2

Semi-final, finally

Anne Smith, of the United States, ranked 19th in the world, reached her first semi-final round of a singles event since 1978, defeating Sylvia Hanika, West Germany, 6-3, 6-4 in the Dalhousie Tournament at Brighton. Page 20

Clocks go back

Summer time ends officially at 2 am tomorrow when clocks should be put back one hour.

Leader page 7
Letters: On young unemployed, from Mr J. P. Swallow, and others; lost art works, from Dr David Hamilton, and Dr David Sturdy
Leading articles: CND; Croydon by-election; Iranian studies at Cambridge; page 6
Features: page 6
The admiral who runs the Playboy Club; storms for the Marmalade
Obituary, page 8
Mr Reg Butler

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Warsaw sends troops to keep supplies moving

From Densa-Trevisan, Warsaw, Oct 23

The Polish Government announced tonight that troops would be used throughout the country to improve supplies and administration and resolve local disputes amid widening incidents of protest. An extraordinary situation requires extraordinary measures, a Government spokesman said. The decision to intervene came after the Solidarity independent trade union organization called for a one-hour general strike on Wednesday in protest at alleged police harassment and government threats to suspend the right to strike. Mr. Jery Urban, the government spokesman, said in a statement, relayed over national television: "Tension is growing. The state leaning toward a decision to undertake all indispensable actions in saving the state."

The Army has played an increasingly active role since the appointment of General Wojciech Jaruzelski as Prime Minister, and will now lead a special task force to streamline administration and secure better supplies as well as to watch over "negative manifestations," which clearly mean to see that law and order is maintained. The Government spokesman announced the decision to set up special operational regional groups, headed by professional soldiers and composed of national servicemen entrusted with a variety of tasks. They will be attached to the regional and local administrative offices, in the present wave of strikes is being accused of inefficiency. Solidarity announced its intention today to take over the control of production and the distribution of food and other commodities in a chronically short supply.

The Prime Minister obviously shares the view that the administration is mainly to blame for the breakdown of supplies. "Their principal mission is directly to inform the Government of any negative phenomena, to take steps to counteract them, and to render necessary assistance to the population and local governments," Mr. Urban said, quoting from a Cabinet decree. Earlier, the union leadership called on all regional branches to stop the protests which were damaging the Polish economy. The union's national commission, meeting in Gdansk, decided that unless the Government ensured availability by the

Labour left in fight for Bradford North

By Our Correspondent Bradford

Mr. Michael Foot, MP for Bradford North, lost his seat when the Labour wing of the Bradford Labour Party failed to secure sufficient votes at the constituency's re-election meeting at Bradford last night.

Mr. Foot, aged 55, Labour MP for Bradford North since 1964, lost his seat when the Labour wing of the Bradford Labour Party failed to secure sufficient votes at the constituency's re-election meeting at Bradford last night. Mr. Foot said later: "I am disappointed that I have lost my seat, but I am proud to have served the constituency for 17 years. I will continue to work for the people of Bradford North."

Mr. Foot said that he had been in the constituency since 1964, and that he had been a member of the Bradford Labour Party since 1964. He said that he had been a member of the Bradford Labour Party since 1964, and that he had been a member of the Bradford Labour Party since 1964. He said that he had been a member of the Bradford Labour Party since 1964, and that he had been a member of the Bradford Labour Party since 1964.



General Sir Stuart Pringle with a picture of his dog, Bella.

General knew he might be target

By Richard Ford

Two weeks before the IRA attempted to assassinate him by booby-trapping his car, General Sir Stuart Pringle knew there was a possibility that he might be a target and warned his immediate staff to be on their guard. Sir Stuart said yesterday that he had done what he could about personal security but his name and address were in 20 to 30 registers. "Unless I dig myself a hole in the ground and cease to be a human being, I do not see how I can live any other way."

Sir Stuart is Commander General of the Royal Marines. "I do not think they would rate me very highly if I tried to evade some of the dangers they go through more frequently than I do," he said. The discipline of service life had, perhaps, made him more morally resilient during the minutes he lay conscious in the wreckage of his car, hanging on to life.

Sir Stuart was sitting up in his bed in King's College Hospital surrounded by some of the cards and messages of good will that have deluged him in the week since the car bomb exploded as he drove away from his home in South Croydon, Dulwich, South London. As he lay trapped, his thoughts were for the people around in case there was another bomb, and for the distress the blast would cause to his family. "But being self-

Foot blames Livingstone for Labour failure at Croydon

By Julian Hayland, Political Editor

Leaders of the Conservative Party, Tories and Labour candidates in Thursday's by-election at Croydon North West were both derisively beaten by Mr. William Pitt, the Liberal Social Democrat Alliance candidate. Mr. Foot said yesterday that he had done what he could about personal security but his name and address were in 20 to 30 registers. "Unless I dig myself a hole in the ground and cease to be a human being, I do not see how I can live any other way."

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Oil tanker drivers may strike

By Donald Macintyre Labour Correspondent

The Government is expected to dust off contingency plans for the use of troops to move essential oil and petrol supplies after a shop stewards' decision yesterday to recommend oil tanker drivers strike from November 16. A delegate conference of Transport and General Workers' Union senior stewards, representing more than 15,000 tanker drivers in the large oil companies, decided to call a national stoppage in the biggest oil companies unless a 6.7 per cent pay offer was improved to 11 per cent. Continued on page 2, col 1

Third World dismayed at Reagan's hard line

From Nicholas Ashford and Melvyn Westlake, Cancun, Mexico, Oct 23

With only hours to go before the Cancun conference on North-South dialogue ends, intensive discussions were taking place this afternoon between the 22 delegations attending the last day of the summit. Here to find a face-saving compromise on the divisive issue of global negotiations. A senior British official said he believed that a form of words could be worked out to bridge the still very large gap between the United States and most of the poor nations at the summit. Delegates were considering proposals to set up working groups to prepare the way for global negotiations—talks on an overhaul of world's trading and financial systems. President Reagan has dismayed Third World representatives here by attaching four tough conditions for American participation. By the second and last day of the conference today, this issue was supposed to be over, and participants turned to trade, energy and monetary matters. But broad agreement to press ahead with global negotiations has been seen as the touchstone of success at the summit. To leaders and foreign ministers agreed to return to the issue at their final session. The United States has made



A triumphant embrace for Mr. Pitt from a party worker at the Liberal HQ in Whitehall.

New radar device ruins RAF defence tactics

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

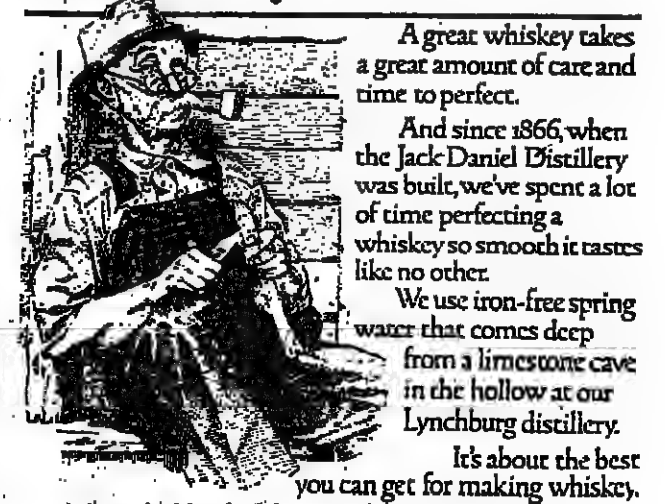
A British company has achieved a breakthrough in counter-radar technology, which will almost certainly force the RAF and other air forces to rethink their tactics. The operational use of Airborne Early Warning aircraft such as the American AWACS, the British Nimrod, is also likely to be affected by the development, carried out by Ferranti Computer Systems Ltd, and it should have implications for ground-hugging cruise missiles like those to be stationed in Britain. Since its early days radar has been known to give eccentric results at times, but this has been dismissed as "anomalous propagation" or "Anagrop," and the blame put on the equipment or operator.

Ferranti has worked out a computer system, called Indication of Microwave Propagation (IMP), which can predict how radar beams will behave, enabling air crews to react accordingly. The idea is that of Wing Commander Philip Burton who recently commanded the RAF's early warning squadron but now works as a Ferranti consultant. It is based on the discovery that in certain conditions affected by humidity and air temperature, radar energy is channelled into what Ferranti calls ducts as it passes through the atmosphere.

There are evaporation ducts which occur for about 100 feet above water, surface ducts which extend for several thousand feet over land in certain conditions, and elevated ducts which have been noted at higher levels. Bombers flying to targets along a radar duct might be picked up by an enemy at more than twice the range the radar set was designed for. Even the Stealth bomber which is now being developed for about £5,000 million in the United States and which is said to be almost invisible to radar, runs a high risk of being detected if caught in such a duct, according to Ferranti. On the other hand an aircraft, even as large as a jumbo-jet, could escape if it flew just above the duct from where the radar energy had been drained. The irony is that modern air forces, particularly the RAF, have concentrated in recent

years on flying as low as possible when attacking enemy targets in the belief that by using the earth's curvature they can avoid radar detection until almost over their objective. The Ferranti research suggests that in certain conditions aircraft could hardly be worse, because they are then flying straight through a surface duct. Instead they should aim to attack from a height of several thousand feet. Research scientists from the Royal Aircraft Establishment and the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment have spent hours testing their own programmes on the Ferranti system, but they have not shot us down once yet," said an executive yesterday. Ferranti has developed IMP

WHITTILING ON A STICK THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF MAKING JACK DANIEL'S



A great whiskey takes a great amount of care and time to perfect. And since 1866, when the Jack Daniel Distillery was built, we've spent a lot of time perfecting a whiskey so smooth it tastes like no other. We use iron-free spring water that comes deep from a limestone cave in the hollow at our Lynchburg distillery. It's about the best you can get for making whiskey. The right blend of the finest quality grains is also important. But it's our special charcoal mellowing process that accounts for Jack Daniel's unrivalled smoothness. Every drop of Jack Daniel's whiskey takes its own time to filter slowly through nine feet of finely packed sugar maple charcoal. At this stage all we can do is just wait and pass the time. Eventually, as all the roughness is filtered out, we're left with Jack Daniel's. And not one drop can be touched until it has slowly matured in charred oak barrels for years. The secret is knowing just when it has reached perfection. One sip of its rare mellow taste, and you'll be glad we spend so much time just whittling. JACK DANIEL'S Tennessee sipping whiskey. STILLLED AND BOTTLED BY JACK DANIEL DISTILLERY, LYNCHBURG, TENNESSEE, U.S.A. EST. & REG. IN 1866.

From David Felton, Labour Reporter, Harrogate

Strike threat

Continued from page 1 :

The oil companies last night reacted cautiously to the threat which follows union

A girl, aged 14, in council

**£500,000
MADE FROM
BEER KEGS**

Nine men will be sentenced

Such was the scale of the operation that Ronald Dunn, aged 49, and Maurice Thurston, aged 46, organizers of the gang, could afford to drive a Rolls-Royce and a Mercedes-Benz.

From Our Correspondent

□ A dispute which affected production at the De L'Ange sport

duction at the De Lorean sports car plant in Belfast appeared

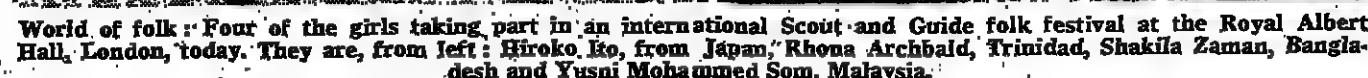
immediately blacked and the men were later suspended. Another 200 walked out in support.

es Gibb

had heart times'

w, Middlesbrough

He agreed it would not be desirable for a consultant to be known to have a wife suffering from mental trouble.



By John Witherow

That, combined with what one official said was a general apprehension about the party because of internal division and the growing influence of

Polls please

By Our Political Editor

The opinion polls all underestimated the size of the win by the alliance candidate.

By Our Political Editor

Crosby:
By John Chartres
The Crosby constituency, which has been signed by

By John Chartres ...

The constituency is very largely a dormitory area, not only for those who remain reasonably prosperous and still make livings from economically devastated Liverpool but also

CROFTON - NORTHWEST

Majority 3.254

But the political future of Mr. Boden, a middle-of-the-road socialist who has tried unsuccessfully to win the seat

local party has swung behind
Mr Wedgwood Benn.

Mr Bob Wybrow, of Gallup, decided against MORF's method. "We put all 12 candidates on our card in the end, because that was what people were going to be faced with in the polling booths".

Mr Wybrow said that Gallup was "the most accurate in terms of average error." We

who live there and the high proportion of retired voters, who depend not only on state pensions but, in the case of many, on non-index-linked pensions to which they contributed during their working lives.

By Diana Geddes

recent battle between the two sides has been over whether the reduction in current spending required was 5.5 per cent as the Department of the Environment has said, or 9 per cent plus, according to the councils. The councils saw the Govern-

effect of pay and price
increases

CHECKED
By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The steep rise in the price of American nineteenth century art, one of last season's sensations, appeared to meet its first check at Sotheby's New York sale on Thursday.

at \$300,000 (estimate \$375,000-
\$425,000).

"Fine Victorian" picture
totalled £213,080 with 25 per cent unsold; the top price was £20,000 (estimate £8,000-£12,000) paid by Richard Green of Thomas Sidney Cooper's "The Middle East" of 1873.

By Pearce Wright

mass from carbon dioxide and solar energy depends on manipulating plants and microbes, and creating conditions, for carbon to be co-

lected in organisms with a efficiency that is four to five

Dr Potter said he expects the council to allocate even

port must be linked to the needs of industry.

of external services when
was suggested that ministers
may not have been able to do
any reduction of the £
planned saving with
Treasury.

□ BBC television will feel
first effects of a strike
video editors, over a grade
dispute, this weekend. A

BBC-2 on Monday evening.

3.500; Iran: Republic 3.00; Italy: 1.00;
 Jordan, L.O. 0.40; Kuwait, KD 0.40;
 Lebanon L1 0.00; Luxembourg, LF 3.00;
 Macedonia, GR 75; Malta 30c; Morocco 1.00;
 7. Norway, Kr. 0.50; Oman, O.R. 0.70;
 Pakistan, Pk. 12; Portugal, Esc 75; Qatar,
 GR 7.50; Saudi Arabia, SR 3.00;
 Singapore, S. 5; Spain, Pn L25; Sweden,
 7.00; Switzerland, S Frs 5.00; Syria,
 5.00; Tunisia, Din. 600; U.S.A. \$1.00;
 U.A.E. Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia, Din 50.

Defence lawyers seek to quash Bill of Indictment

By Lucy Hodges

Lawyers acting for the 15 black youths charged after the death of Terence May, the motorcyclist who died in the motorway crash in June, moved swiftly yesterday (Fri) to try to keep the case in the magistrates' court.

During a day which began with a hearing in Croydon Magistrates' Court and ended in front of Mr Justice Nield at the Central Criminal Court, defence counsel made it clear that they objected strongly to the voluntary Bill of Indictment granted to the Director of Public Prosecutions yesterday, to enable the case to be brought to trial quickly.

Mr Rudy Narayan, defence counsel, asked Mr Justice Nield to quash the Bill on the grounds that a High Court judge did not have the power to grant such a Bill where evidence against the accused depended on verification.

He referred to guidelines given by the Attorney General to the House of Commons in 1976 which laid down that witnesses giving identification evidence should be called at the magistrates' court stage. Mr Narayan suggested these guidelines had the force of law.

He asked to bring a voluntary Bill of Indictment in the case was granted to the DPP on Thursday by Mr Justice Michael Davies sitting in chambers. On the ground that magistrates' proceedings, which had lasted three weeks, were taking too long. No defence counsel were present.

In a statement read out to Croydon justices yesterday Mr Justice Davies said it was abundantly clear that magistrates' proceedings in the case of the 15 youths, all of whom are charged with riot and seven with murder, had "not completely out of hand, that the magistrates have been over-whelmed and that there is no prospect of the magistrates' proceedings (if they continue) being completed within a reasonable or tolerable period of time."

Mr Stanley Lowy, chairman of the Croydon bench, said the hearing would be adjourned sine die. Reporting restrictions were lifted after an application from defence counsel.

Lawyers said they were profoundly concerned about the Attorney General's decision to refer complaints about the conduct of barristers at the Central Criminal Court to the professional conduct committee of the Bar Council.

Quoting from yesterday's report in *The Times*, Mr Donald Anderson, a defence counsel who is also Labour MP for Swansea East, reminded the magistrates that they had adjourned magistrates' proceedings after expressing concern about a witness aged 17 having been cross-examined for three days.

He also noted that they had said advocates in the case were not to be criticized for the way it had gone. He asked to see a copy of the letter the justices sent to the DPP inviting him to bring the case to trial quickly by way of a voluntary Bill of Indictment.

Mr Lowy refused his request. Mr Anderson objected that this was secret justice and that the barrister could not challenge the allegations against them because they did not know their source. Mr Lowy replied: "We were profoundly concerned at the lack of progress in these proceedings."

In the afternoon the drama shifted to the Central Criminal Court where Mr Justice Nield was persuaded to adjourn the case in order to hear lawyers' objections to the granting of the voluntary Bill of Indictment.

He adjourned the case until next week because of lack of time to consider the case. He said he had jurisdiction to review Mr Justice Davies's decision.

Three men in Prosser case to go for trial

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

Three prison officers are to stand trial accused of murdering Mr Barry Prosser, aged 32, who died at Winslow Green Prison, Birmingham last year.

The decision came during a day of unusual legal impression and followed an early telephone call yesterday from Mr Justice Stephen Brown to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The judge said he had granted the director's ex parte application for a voluntary Bill of Indictment to accuse the men of Mr Prosser's murder. He did so without hearing or seeing counsel for the director, who had been due to appear in his chambers later in the day.

The three men, Melvin Jackson, aged 32, Howard Smith, aged 24, and Eric Price, aged 32, were discharged on a murder charge last month by Mr F. H. Eastchurch, Birmingham stipendiary magistrate, who said a jury could not properly convict them.

Lawyers said yesterday that judge did not have to hear oral representations if he was satisfied from the papers before him that there was a prima facie case to be answered.

The judge had read the papers delivered to him by the director's staff on Thursday. The three prison officers have been issued through their solicitors, with a summons requiring them to appear at Birmingham Crown Court at 10.30 am on Monday.

They will appear before Mr Justice Stephen Brown when consideration will be given to the granting of bail and the ultimate venue of the trial. When the three were discharged on September 30, it was the second time that Mr Jackson had been accused of Mr Prosser's murder. In February this year Mr John Millward, Mr Jackson's predecessor, also listened to the prosecution case against him and decided not to send him for trial.

St Mary-le-Strand crumbling

By John Young, Planning Reporter

One of London's loveliest and most familiar churches is in grave danger. St Mary-le-Strand, on its island site near the Aldwych, is crumbling from the combined effects of time, weather, heavy traffic and the blast of a wartime bomb.

The Greater London Council has threatened to declare it a dangerous structure unless urgent repairs are carried out.

Ironically, the defects have only come to light as the result of a £100,000 cleaning and restoration programme for which an appeal was launched in 1977. The restoration committee, whose patron is the Duke of Gloucester, believes that dismantling, repairing and rebuilding the tower will cost at least £500,000.

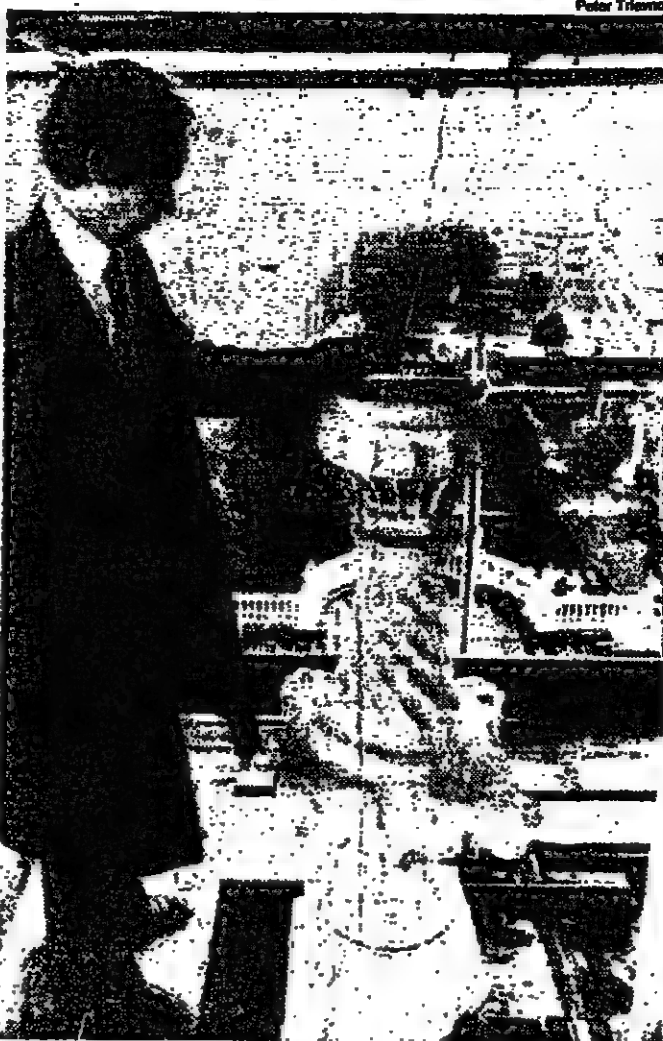
The church was completed in 1717 to a design by James Gibbs who, remarkably for a Roman Catholic so soon after the Orange accession, was also the architect of St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Radcliffe Camera, Oxford, and the Senate House in Cambridge.

Its tower was so admired that he was even commissioned to add a similar adornment to the St Clement Domes, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, which was rather like being asked to write a new code for a Beethoven symphony.

The parishes of St Mary's and St Clement's were effectively destroyed in the early years of this century, when it was decided to drive the new Aldwych Kingsway through the warren of medieval streets that lay north of the Strand.

Today the two parishes are united but although both churches still hold regular services, only a few dozen local residents are left to attend them.

St Clement's was the more fortunate of the two in that the scaffolding now enveloping the tower is costing £250 a week and will have to be taken down. That, he thinks, will persuade people that the restoration is justified, and will make it all the more difficult to relaunch the appeal. He is



Landmark in danger: Mr Peter Symmons, chairman of the restoration committee examining crumbling stonework at St Mary's

also gloomy about the prospect of getting any money from the Historic Buildings Council, which is suffering from the squeeze on public expenditure.

Theoretically St Mary's could survive without its tower, and whatever money may be raised could be devoted to restoring the interior of what Sir John Betjeman has described as "a baroque paradise." But St Mary's without its tower is almost as unthinkable as the Strand without St Mary's.

Labour kills new deal for tenant farmers

By Hugh Clayton

Hopes of winning Opposition support for an early new deal for tenant farmers have been dashed by decisive rejection in the Labour Party. The agriculture subcommittee of the party's national executive has voted overwhelmingly against a proposed new tenancy law agreed after two years of bargaining by the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association.

The two bodies have agreed to seek partial repeal of a 1976 Act which allows the heirs of tenant farmers to succeed to tenancies when their parents die. The association, which represents landlords, says the law has drastically reduced the availability of tenancies to would-be farmers who cannot afford the hundreds of thousands of pounds needed to buy an economic holding.

The association and the union, which represents tenants as well as landowners, have spent the past two months in a reluctant search for support from Opposition parties. They have accepted under protest the decision of the Government not to bring their agreement into law until all Opposition parties have accepted it.

The vote by the Labour subcommittee will probably destroy all chance of legislation for a new tenancy deal before the next General Election. The subcommittee's decision will be considered by the Labour Party's executive next month.

Dr Gavin Strang, a member of the subcommittee and a junior agriculture minister in the last Labour government, said yesterday that the deal would create two classes of tenant.

The deal between the association and the union is for present law to protect only existing tenancies. New tenancies would revert to the old system in which the heirs of tenants could be evicted from their homes without appeal when their parents died.

IN BRIEF

Down's baby submissions

Mr Justice Farquarson, sitting without a jury, yesterday heard defence submissions in the Down's syndrome baby murder trial at Leicester Crown Court. The prosecution case ended on Thursday and the judge released the jury until Monday.

Dr Leonard Arthur, aged 55, consultant paediatrician of Church Brackenham, Derbyshire, has pleaded not guilty to murdering the baby, John Pearson.

Summons over blast

A summons under the Health and Safety at Work Act against the chemicals firm Chemstar is expected to be heard at Dukinfield Magistrates' Court on December 16. It concerns an explosion last month at the company's plant at Stalybridge, Greater Manchester, in which a man was killed.

BR is not amused

British Rail is considering prosecuting Mal Hudson, a motor cycle stunt rider from Liverpool, who leapt the 80ft gap between the spans of a disused railway viaduct at Maldon, Essex, without permission.

Docker crushed

Mr Kenneth Harrison, aged 58, a docker from Great Yarmouth, was crushed to death between two trailers as he was helping to unload the ferry Duke of Yarmouth, which had arrived in Great Yarmouth from Holland yesterday.

Police chief ordained

Chief Inspector Sidney Rising, former head of the Nottinghamshire police force, who was ordained after 25 years in the force, will take up a post as priest in charge of parishes in Nottinghamshire in January.

Prisoner dies in jail

Michael Lindsay Hilton, aged 21, serving a six-month sentence, died in a lavatory at Kirkham prison, Lancashire, it was reported yesterday.

The arms race

Hope for march on 50s scale

By Robin Young

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is hoping that its peace march in central London today will be on a scale reminiscent of the great Aldermaston marches of the 1950s.

Though the organizers refuse to estimate the numbers they think will march, they are confident that there will be many more than last year, when it was estimated that between 50,000 and 80,000 took part.

The campaign organizers announced yesterday that they knew supporters had hired 1,000 coaches and 26 trains to come to London. Last year there were 400 coaches and two trains.

The march will take the demonstrators from an assembly point on Victoria Embankment by Hungerford Bridge up St James's Street and along Piccadilly to an afternoon rally in Hyde Park. CND is providing about 300 stewards, and was meeting the Metropolitan Police yesterday to discuss the management of the march.

One possible source of trouble is the intended participation of the Spartacist Group, which has called for a Soviet invasion of Poland to suppress the Solidarity movement. The Spartacists intend to march under banners saying: "Smash Nato - Defend the Soviet Union" and "Stop Solidarity's Counter Revolution."

Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND said yesterday: "Ours is a peace march, and the Spartacists are no part of CND, indeed they are usually extremely disruptive. We are not capable physically of excluding anyone, but if they come anywhere near a breach of the peace this will be for the police to deal with."

Mr Kent said that police had cordoned the Spartacists off from a CND demonstration outside Chatham House earlier this week. He said that in another sense CND's own membership was "out of control."

He said that in the past 18 months national membership

had grown from 3,000 to 32,000 "but that is only a fraction of the story. There are also 1,000 local groups, some of which have 1,000 members. Literally nobody knows how many members we have, save to say that the national membership should be multiplied perhaps five or ten times."

Mr Kent said CND had organized today's march as part of an international campaign to mark the disarmament week which had been called for by the United Nations General Assembly.

"We are all multilateralists, but years of talk about multilateral negotiations have achieved nothing. Unilateralists believe we must take an independent initiative to make multilateralism work, but CND is a broad movement, not a pacifist organization. The march organizers refuse to predict the size of the march because they said the effect would be nullified if the police did not confirm that the target had been achieved."

Plea to victims of Strangelove syndrome

By Ian Bradley

People have been put under a spell by the nuclear bomb and feel threatened to their imminent destruction by it, a leading academic expert on human behaviour said last night.

Dr Nicholas Humphrey, assistant director of the Department of Animal Behaviour at Cambridge University, referred to what he called the Strangelove Syndrome.

He said: "We are in a state of superstitious helplessness over the bomb, hypnotized by its dread beauty and fascinating power. Some people have an apocalyptic vision of nuclear war as a cleansing holocaust, a period of renewal like the day of judgement."

He used the third Bronowski memorial lecture on BBC television to make a strong call for and end to the nuclear arms race. Recalling the power of public opinion in ending the British slave trade, forcing the American with-

drawal in Vietnam and now creating a free trade union movement in Poland, he urged his audience to cease being "the passive, fascinated spectators of nuclear tragedy" and to apply their hands to the brake.

Dr Humphrey compared public attitudes to the bomb to the lemming-like way in which many European Jews faced extermination during the last war. He argued that like the Nazis' treatment of the Jews, the idea of nuclear war is simply too horrifying to comprehend or except.

He said that mankind could not reconcile the horror of the bomb with moral expectations about life, civilization and bringing up children.

"If we cannot carry on normally under the shadow of the bomb," he said, "then we have a duty not to carry on normally."

Dr Humphrey's lecture, entitled *Four Minutes to*

Midnight occupied 50 minutes of prime television time on the eve of today's mass demonstration against nuclear weapons organized by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

It also comes at the end of a week where the subject of nuclear weapons has been brought to the fore by exchanges between President Reagan and President Brezhnev about a so-called limited nuclear war in Europe.

In the lecture, which was pre-recorded, Dr Humphrey did not refer to today's CND demonstration or the Reagan-Brezhnev exchange with reference to the BBC's decision to withdraw an invitation to Professor E. P. Thompson, another distinguished exponent of the anti-nuclear case, to give this year's Dibley lecture.

Leading article, page 7

Cash crisis threatens 30 Riverside Studios jobs

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Riverside Studios, in Hammersmith, West London, faces the loss of 30 of its 36 staff unless it can raise £56,000 in the next four weeks to finance operations until the end of the financial year.

The 30 have been given redundancy notices which will take effect on November 15 if the money is not found.

The Riverside and other London venues will organize fund-raising benefits during November, supported by international artists, including the Royal Ballet, Ballet Rambert, Lynn Seymour, Pete Townshend and the Comic Strip.

The theatre has launched an appeal for the sum and has asked the Greater London Council for help. The theatre will be left with a skeleton staff of six to conduct a

DPP NOT TO PROSECUTE POLICEMEN

No public prosecution will be brought against police involved in the case against Edward John Covill, aged 32, who served two years of a six-year sentence for rape before his conviction was quashed.

The Director of Public Prosecutions' office said yesterday: "We have decided that there is insufficient evidence to prosecute any police officer."

The DPP had been considering action against the police after Mr Covill, of Park Road, Stratford-on-Avon, was released three months ago.

The Court of Appeal hearing followed an anonymous letter to the mother of the 11-year-old Girl Guide who was attacked.

It was from another man, who admitted he was the rapist and gave enough information to convince the police.

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Old Rate	9.50%	New Rate	10.75%	New Gross	15.36%
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Basque country tense in wake of ETA deaths

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Oct 23

Police clashed with demonstrators repeatedly today in the San Sebastián area, and thousands of workers and schoolchildren stayed home in a show of sympathy for two members of the Basque separatist organization ETA who were shot dead on Wednesday while apparently trying to escape.

A call from Abertzale (Basque patriot) groups for a general strike met only limited response, however. Most big factories in the Basque country continued to operate. The protest action was most notable in San Sebastián, Hernani and Tolosa, as well as in the home towns of the two dead extremists.

Rioters blocked main roads by dragging vehicles across them in Pasajes and San Sebastián. Police equipped with full riot-control gear patrolled the principal routes, dispersing groups of demonstrators with rubber bullets and tear gas grenades.

In Ibarra, near San Sebastián, family members and intimate friends attended the burial of one of the activists, Señor José Juaregui Altube, as police blocked access to the cemetery to all others. The mourners defiantly sang the "Euzkako Gudariak", the Basque Soldiers' song.

In Amorebieta, near Bilbao, police broke up an assembly of citizens called by Abertzale politicians before the burial, which only family members were allowed to attend, of the other separatist, Señor José Andrés Ezeizaguirre Gogorza.

In Madrid, police took Señor Inaki Etxebarria, a member of the Basque regional parliament, into custody in a roundup of suspected accomplices of the ETA. A member of a party which openly sympathizes with many of the actions of the ETA, Herri Batasuna (People's Unity), Señor Es-

naola is a prominent lawyer from San Sebastián.

Police confiscated copies of the Basque daily newspaper Egin from news-stands in the Basque region yesterday and seized the plates from which that paper had been printed. The seizure was presumably carried out under a law "for the defence of democracy".

The newspaper, organ of the revolutionary leftist nationalist elements in the Basque country, was suspected of publishing an "apology for terrorism" in the form of stories which presented the two dead men as heroes.

Tv chief resigns over politics

Señor Fernando Castedo, the Director-General of Spain's state-run television network, resigned under Government pressure as a result of his failure to do away with what the ruling Centre Democratic Union (UCD) considers a socialist slant in programmes, according to reports published here today.

The Director-General, who could not legally be dismissed without a two-thirds vote of the network's multi-party board of directors, resigned last night during a three-hour meeting with Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister.

He had been under fire from members of his own party, the UCD, almost since his appointment in January, but the pressure mounted considerably after the unexpected victory of the conservative Popular Alliance (AP) in the elections for the regional parliament of Galicia. Earlier this month Agustín Rodríguez, the president of the UCD, said the government party would no longer tolerate "socialist instrumentalization of public television".

Marriage apartheid defied

Johannesburg, Oct 23. — The Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa has defied one of South Africa's most basic apartheid laws by instructing its clergymen to marry people of different races.

The church, in moves likely to result in a head-on collision with the Government, also urged its ministers to ignore banned material when preaching and invited its congregations to organize peaceful protests against apartheid.

The actions were adopted yesterday at a week-long general assembly of the church in Johannesburg. — Reuter.

□ The South African Air Force has preselected six Coloured (mixed blood) candidates for pilot training and, in a complete break with tradition, three are likely to be admitted for training, according to reports here (AFP reports).

Cairo keeps up Sadat murder revelations

From Robert Fisk, Cairo, Oct 23

Almost three weeks after President Sadat's assassination the Egyptian Government is producing a daily series of "revelations" about the killing, stories designed to shock the population which has recovered with remarkable speed from the events of October 6.

Less than a day after an Egyptian magazine claimed that Mr Sadat's assassins wanted to declare an Islamic republic along Iranian lines, President Hosni Mubarak has told the newspaper *Al-Ahram* that the organization behind the killing wanted to liquidate the country's military, political and religious leadership.

Whether Egyptians believe the sensational reports now appearing in the government-controlled press is open to question.

Having been told that the assassins were a small extremist group operating without any widespread support, they are now being regaled with tales of plots of such depth and ingenuity that they might be forgiven for thinking that Lieutenant Khalid Ahmad Shawki al-Islambuli and his colleagues were a good deal more powerful than was at first disclosed.

The magazine *Al-Mussawwar*, for instance, suggested this week that the Muslim fundamentalists behind the assassination planned to take over the Egyptian radio and television and declare an Islamic republic.

This would hardly have been possible unless they were far stronger than had hitherto been revealed. According to the magazine, Egyptian security men have seized documents which revealed plans to carry out a series of assassinations of political leaders over a period of two years.

Mr Mubarak claimed that even opposition leaders were on the group's death list, a suggestion obviously intended to bring Egypt's time opposition parties into line behind the authorities.

Indeed, today's Cairo newspapers carried photographs of the leaders of the Socialist Labour Party and the Liberal Socialist Party talking to the President after making appropriate gestures of support for the Government.

Lieutenant al-Islambuli and his three comrades meanwhile are still undergoing interrogation at the hands of military intelligence, apparently at a barracks in the Cairo suburb of Helipolis. Just what they are revealing, if anything, has not been disclosed.



Skull going home

The skull of *Proconsul africanus*, a possible early ancestor of man (above), is due to return to Kenya this weekend after spending the last 30 years of its approximately 20 million years of existence in the Natural History Museum in London (Charles Harrison writes from Nairobi).

The skull was discovered by the archaeologist Dr Mary Leakey on Rusinga Island, Lake Victoria, in 1948. It was lent to the Natural History Museum, on the understanding that it remained the property of Kenya and would be returned after study.

Documents regarding it were recently discovered in Kenya's national archives after being misplaced. This was followed by a request for its return and Mr Richard Leakey, the Director of Kenya's National Museum, is flying to Nairobi with it this weekend.

The museum says this is the only known skull of *Proconsul africanus*.

□ The Egyptian Government has called for the return of a 3ft high fragment of the Sphinx which is now in the British Museum (David Cross writes).

MOONIE LEADER IS BAILED

From Our Correspondent New York, Oct 23

Thousands of flag-waving followers of the Rev Sun Myung Moon, who are known as "Moonies", chanted their support outside the Manhattan Federal Court yesterday as the Korean-born leader of the Unification Church was arraigned on tax evasion charges.

Mr Moon, dressed in a dapper grey suit, pleaded not guilty through an interpreter. He was released on \$250,000 (£138,000) bail and his passport was confiscated.

He is charged with failing to report \$112,000 in interest earned on a New York bank between 1973 and 1975. It is also alleged he received \$50,000 in unreported stock in a company of which he is chairman.

Controllers win brief reprieve

Washington, Oct 23. — Although the Federal Labour Relations Authority has ordered withdrawal of recognition from the true union covering 11,500 striking air traffic controllers, dismissed by President Reagan, a court has blocked the decision at least until next week.

This is the first time the Government has decertified a union by stripping it of its bargaining authority. The court ruling came hours after the authority had ordered decertification of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) yesterday.

A spokesman for the appeals court said it had issued a temporary stay until it received a response from the Government. — Reuter.

Mr Moi has asked African states, including Nigeria, Senegal and the Ivory Coast, to provide men and support for an OAU force. Several states have said they would be willing to support such a force.

Leaders meet in Athens Kyprianou seeks clarification of Greek policy on Cyprus

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Oct 23

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the first Socialist Prime Minister of Greece, has had to come to grips with the Cyprus problem today, barely 48 hours after coming to power.

The Prime Minister had an extensive first round of talks today with Mr Spyros Kyprianou, the Cypriot President, who came to Athens to find out which of Mr Papandreu's campaign pronouncements on Cyprus he had survived as Government policy.

At stake here is the Waldheim formula that could revive the deadlocked intercommunal talks by prompting a new negotiating basis for the territorial issue on a 70-30 ratio. The hope is that the Turkish Cypriots would eventually accept a zone of 23 per cent. This number has almost magical connotations.

In Athens, however, the problem was whether the Papandreu Government would be like its predecessor, in favour of a continuation of the intercommunal dialogue or not.

Two days before the elections, Mr Papandreu told a news conference that no Cyprus dialogue was possible without prior withdrawal from the island of not only the Turkish forces, but the Greek Army contingent, as well as the sovereign British bases. It was the first time he had included the British bases.

In welcoming Mr Kyprianou at his office today, Mr Papandreu said the Greek Cypriots could count on

Greece's support "until there is a just solution that will safeguard the independence and unity of Cyprus, free from any foreign troops".

Another key question for Mr Kyprianou will be the nature of the relationship between Athens and Nicosia. While in opposition, Mr Papandreu had strongly criticized the previous government for adhering to the doctrine "Cyprus decides, Greece supports". He said this was an escapism policy.

The criticism was seen as implying that Mr Papandreu believed Athens should have a greater say in decision-making about Cyprus — a policy that led to confrontation when Mr George Papandreu, the Prime Minister's late father, sought to impose it in 1964, when he was Prime Minister, on Archbishop Makarios.

The approach was softer today. Mr Papandreu told journalists: "I know this is a difficult and delicate phrase of the Cyprus problem. This is why we meet today, so that we may get briefed and, in turn, express our friendly views to President Kyprianou."

An official statement later said today's sessions had been devoted to a full briefing of the Greek Government on the latest positions. There would be another private session between the President Karamanlis and the Prime Minister on Monday.

During a working luncheon later, Mr Papandreu accepted

an official invitation to Cyprus from Mr Kyprianou, who is to have talks tomorrow also with Mr Karamanlis.

□ PLO recognition: Greece will recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) formally at the end of the year and invite M Yasser Arafat, its leader, for an official visit, officials here said today. (AFP reports).

The move would make Greece the first member of the European Community and Nato to recognize the PLO. Mr Papandreu confirmed rumours circulating here last night that Athens would recognize the PLO before the end of the year. Asked about the reports, he said: "Yes, that is correct," but added, "I cannot get into details for the moment." The visit by Mr Arafat would take place this year.

□ Censorship lifted: The Government today lifted censorship of films and songs, imposed price controls on raw materials and began drafting legislation to recognize leftist groups which fought the Nazis in the Second World War.

The decision to lift censorship will mean unrestricted screening of pornographic films. Under Greek law a public prosecutor may intervene when considerations of public morality are at stake.

Mr Nikos Alkistides, the Commerce Minister, announced price controls at the production level, replacing the gradual freeing of prices applied by the Conservative Government.

OAU reply expected soon on Chad peace force

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Oct 23

Officials of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) are expected to reply soon to a call by President François Mitterrand of France for the early dispatch of a peacekeeping force to Chad.

Mr Mitterrand's message to President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, the OAU chairman, was sent in the light of French fears of a new outbreak of civil war between the rival factions led by President Goukouni Oueddei, supported by Libya, and Mr Hissène Habré, the former Foreign Minister, who is said to be receiving support from Egypt and Sudan.

Mr Moi has asked African states, including Nigeria, Senegal and the Ivory Coast, to provide men and support

for an OAU force. Several states have said they would be willing to support such a force.

OAU officials say privately many details on financing and other aspects need to be settled, and they regard Mr Mitterrand's view that the force could be quickly assembled and moved into Chad as over-optimistic.

The OAU summit conference here in July approved a proposal to create the force, and Libya said it would withdraw its forces from Chad as soon as it was asked to by the Chad Government. Mr Goukouni made it clear that the Libyans would remain there until the OAU force was ready to replace them.

Cameraman kicked unconscious

From Our Correspondent Buenos Aires, Oct 23

A photographer for *La Prensa*, the conservative daily, was kept in hospital last night after being severely beaten by police who were breaking up a small student rally outside the Ministry of Education building here.

Señor Sergio Vijaude, the photographer told the paper he was covering a demonstration called by students to demand university reform when police arrived on the scene, dragging one student away by the hair.

Señor Enrique di Napoli, Vice the secretary general of the federal police, said today that some policemen had "overstepped the mark".

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Britain attacked for spending aid money in Mexico

From Nicholas Ashford, Cancun, Oct 23

Britain has come in for severe criticism over a decision to use aid money to help finance the construction of a plant steel mill in Mexico. It was announced today that Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who is attending the North-South summit conference in Cancun, is to send her staff to Mexico, until Monday in order to attend a signing ceremony for the £220m contract.

It is for the second stage of a business scheme known as Scurra 2, which has been awarded to the British company, Davy International.

Mr Evan Luard, former junior minister at the Foreign Office and now a senior representative of Oxfam, said today that it was "wicked to spend the small amount of British aid available on a project of this kind which benefits so few people".

Mr John Mitchell, director of the World Development Movement, said: "The use of £30m of overseas aid money to build this contract is a disgraceful misuse of aid funds." He pointed out that country like Mexico, which has oil wealth, could not normally qualify as a recipient of British capital.

This is the second time that the same company has been involved in a dispute over the use of British aid to secure a contract. Recently the Government agreed to contribute £150m towards a £1,200m contract which Davy International won in India.

How to be manipulated in luxury

From Nicholas Ashford, Cancun, Oct 23

President Marcos of the Philippines has won a sort of gratitude from among the 2,000 or so journalists who have gathered in Cancun, a fringed sand bar off the Mexican coast to cover what is known as the international meeting on cooperation and development. At least he's got the opportunity to write about "murdered" and "imprisoned" in the luxury Sheraton Hotel, with the result that only carefully selected versions of what they are saying to each other ever reach the press.

President Marcos, however, is not the sort of man to let slip the opportunity of a press conference. Even before he arrived he created a stir when it was revealed that he was bringing a new holiday resort with nothing but luxury hotels and villas.

And to ensure that no-one should be fumbling around for material, thousands of copies of his biography and glossy background notes about the Philippines were circulated in the hotel and conference centre.

When he arrived, several truckloads of local peasants were brought over from the Mexican mainland to stomp up a popular welcome. Later, when he decided to go water-skiing (to which he was taken by helicopter gunship) the assembled masses of the Filipino press were summoned to observe the event.

But while President Marcos may have created a big splash at Cancun, most attention has been focused on President Reagan and how he would get on with leaders from countries like Algeria, Tanzania, and China.

He appeared to be off to a bad start when he was 13 minutes late for the opening session of the conference which led one anxious secret service man to comment: "Everybody is here except Rawhide." Attempts by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State to blame the President's tardiness on an inefficient hotel lift did not endear the Americans to their Mexican hosts.

But President Reagan is too much of a professional politician to be thrown by such an incident. He just switched on the charm and deflected much of the criticism.

SUSPECTED EXTREMISTS ARRESTED

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels, Oct 23

Four West Germans wanted by police in Munich for questioning in connection with a right-wing anti-semitic group, were arrested last night in two police raids in the Ghent area. Extrajudicial proceedings are expected to start within the next week. The four are alleged to have fled to Belgium on Wednesday just after Munich police broke up a unit of the Peoples Socialist Movement of Germany (VSD) in a gun battle during which two group members were killed.

The movement can count on some sympathisers in the west Flanders area, where extreme right-wing groups have operated in the past. One of the best-known, the Flemish Military Order (VMO), has a commemorative ceremony planned for Sunday at Diksmuide, only 30 miles from Ghent.

Correction

The headline on October 17 above a report on the collapse of Holland's coalition Cabinet incorrectly read: Amsterdam Cabinet resigns. The seat of the government is The Hague.



A woman and her horse pass a copy of Picasso's "Guernica" in the village of Caltojar, central Spain, where the artist's centenary is being celebrated by adorning walls with copies of his work painted by villagers.

Drama unlikely at congress French Socialists go for image of unity

From Charles Hargrove, Valence, Oct 23

The victory congress of the French Socialist Party—the first since it swept into power at the polls—opened here this morning in the vast, hangar-like hall of the trade fair.

It was filled to capacity with an audience of nearly 5,000 party delegates, supporters, journalists, and members of the media. Delegates from 30 countries—including one from China—and a member of the Afghan resistance movement.

There was a record press contingent of 800 French and foreign journalists for this three-day event. This is the ransom of success. But it has put under severe strain the limited housing and catering facilities of this medium-sized town of 70,000 in the Rhone valley, which lies in the orbit of Lyons.

The congress is historic in more than one respect. It is also the first in the ten years since M. Francois Mitterrand launched his new Socialist Party on the long march to power that his powerful personality is absent from an important gathering of his supporters and his friends.

Although he is now, as he insisted on the evening of his election, the president of all Frenchmen, he had expressed the wish to attend. He thought the better of it, however, and in any case is in Cancun, fighting the cause of the developing countries.

But, like a presiding deity, he is present in the minds of everyone there. "Above all, France," as M. Louis Mermat, president of the National Assembly emphasised today in an interview.

Two of his closest advisers, M. Pierre Bergeyrov, the secretary-general, and M. Jacques Fourrier, his deputy, are at Valence with a watching brief along with a large posse of ministers.

It is the first party congress since 1971 at which a single resolution is proposed for adoption by the 800 voting delegates.

Unity is the keynote. The many trends and currents which go to the making of French socialism, reflecting the whole gamut of political sensitivities, as the Socialists describe them, from social democracy to Marxism, have officially ceased to exist. A party of government, as the Prime Minister insists a few days ago at Lille, cannot perpetually ask itself questions.

So there will be no drama at Valence, like the clash at the Metz congress two years ago, which opposed M. Mitterrand and M. Michel Rocard, the unsuccessful candidate for party nomination last year and still its most popular public figure, according to the latest recent opinion polls with his belief in nuclear forces and common sense being at least as strong as his ideological commitment.

Since then, the influence of the Rocardians has steadily declined and their representation on the new party executive to be approved by congress, was cut substantially when nominations were decided a week ago.

For this reason, they refused to put a resolution of their own, in spite of the urgent promptings of the Mitterrandists precisely because they did not wish to stand up to the test of their opponents proposed and decided to hide their time until the wind should change.

The main issue before the congress is, however, the equally thorny question of relations between the Government, the parliamentary group, and the party, which are by no means clear cut. The Socialist MPs press at times successfully for more radical change, but the party militants, like all militants, one step ahead of them.

It was striking from the outset of the congress. M. Jean Popere, the party number one in the House of Commons, said party objectives were to "make the country enter irreversibly into Social democracy."

Carters get apology from paper

Washington, Oct 23—The Washington Post today apologized to former President Carter and his wife Rosalynn for a gossip column item about reports that President Reagan might have been "bugged" before his inauguration in January.

It printed on its front page a letter to the Carters from the paper's publisher, Mr Donald Graham, in which he retracted the report and apologized to them for publishing it.

Mr Carter had said that he would sue the paper for libel after it published the report on October 5. The paper said that neither its executive editor nor Mr Carter's lawyer would sue the paper, which was part of a negotiated settlement.

The letter said: "I wish to retract the item that appeared in the Washington Post. When we published the item we had no way of knowing it was untrue and we believed it to be credible and reliable, and he identified his sources as two members of your family."

"We now believe the story he told us to have been wrong and that there was no 'bugging' of Blair House (the official White House guest residence) during your administration. Nor do we now believe that members of your family said Blair House was 'bugged'."

"I also wish to apologize to both of you for its publication and regret any embarrassment that it caused you."

After Mr Carter notified the paper that he planned to sue for "seven-figure amount," it printed a controversial leading article saying: "It is one thing, however, to read that item to say such a tale is circulating, and quite another to conclude from this that the place was in fact bugged."

"Based on everything we know of the Carter instinct and record on the subject, we find the remark utterly impossible to believe."

Mr Graham's letter defended the leading article, saying it spoke for the paper's management and was not intended to suggest that the paper's editors knew to be false because "that is not the policy of the Washington Post."

S African paper says Russians have sent advisers to Botswana

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Oct 23

The first batch of an unknown number of Russian military advisers has arrived to take up residence in Botswana, the former British protectorate of Bechuanaland, Beid, one of South Africa's leading Afrikaans newspapers, reported today.

The Soviet advisers reported arrival comes about a month after Botswana took delivery of a number of Russian-made armoured vehicles, weapons and ammunition, which were shipped from Russia to Mozambique and then brought overland by rail to Gaborone, the Botswana capital.

The arms purchase, and the arrival of the Soviet personnel, which occurred shortly after a visit to Moscow by Brigadier Ian Khama, the second-in-command of the Botswana Army, have given rise to fears here that Botswana is falling prey to Soviet influence.

Pretoria is obsessed by the fear of Soviet expansion in southern Africa and sees South Africa as the last anti-communist bastion. This is one of the reasons why the South Africans are reluctant to grant Namibia (South-West Africa) its independence.

Covering more than 230,000 square miles, Botswana occupies an extremely sensitive position, jutting southwards into the heart of South Africa.

There is increasing concern in Pretoria that Botswana, with the two other former British High Commission territories of Lesotho and Swaziland, are developing into operating bases for the African National Congress, the black resistance movement banned in South Africa.

Traditionally, the small Botswana Army of 2,000 to 3,000 men has relied on British, Irish and Belgian equipment.

The Botswana Army chief, Major-General Mompoti Mphahle, has defended the Soviet purchase on the grounds that it merely proves his Government's non-alignment and readiness to buy weapons from any source.

It is understood that President Quett Masire was initially against buying Soviet arms and accepting Soviet advisers, and would have preferred to purchase American weapons, even though they were more expensive. But Brigadier Khama, one of the late President Seretse Khama, threatened to make a public issue of the difference in price and the President backed down.

No rush to one-party state, Mugabe says

From Stephen Taylor, Bulawayo, Oct 23

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, on a tour of Soviet territory today told supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo, his main rival, that the country would not become a one-party state until they gave their consent. If they wanted Zimbabwe's present system of Government to continue it would.

He gave his assurance at Plumtree, a border town about 50 miles west of here.

Earlier in the day he visited a school at Entumbane, the Bulawayo township where in February members of his and Mr Nkomo's former guerrilla armies were involved in blood clashes that left more than 200 dead.

Mr Mugabe was on the third day of a tour of Matabeleland, the region which provides the basis of Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front party. Although the two men are bound together in a coalition government, the relationship has been frequently strained and the Matabele people of the region remain deeply suspicious about the intentions of Mr Mugabe's Shona-based Zanu (PF) party.

Today Mr Mugabe was at his most reassuring. "Some people suspect that because I have talked of a one-party state that their party must die. We will not force a one-party state on you but will continue in the hope that you will change," he said.

Both nurses and teachers have indicated, however, that they will strike again if they are not satisfied with the response to their demands.

Meanwhile, nurses who had been on strike for a week agreed to return to work tomorrow after the suspension of the teachers' strike yesterday.

Dr Simon Mazorodze, the Minister of Health told the nurses yesterday that the Government would consider their grievances and it appeared that most nurses were prepared to return to work.

IN BRIEF

Trudeau proposal accepted

Ottawa.—Mr Pierre Trudeau and Canada's 10 provincial premiers appear to be headed back to the bargaining table to settle their dispute over bringing home the Canadian constitution from Britain.

In a message to the Prime Minister, Mr William Bennett, premier of British Columbia, accepted his proposal for a first ministers' meeting here on November 2. If the meeting takes place, it will be the first time since September last year that the first ministers have met face to face on the patriation issue.

Thief takes £14,300 from church body

Geneva.—An armed man in a wig and false moustache escaped with the equivalent of £14,300 in Swiss and foreign currencies from the World Council of Churches after forcing a young woman cashier to accompany him from the building without raising the alarm.

Keeping out crime

Golden Beach, Florida.—This wealthy seaside town has closed all but one road leading to the rest of Dade county, where violent crime has increased rapidly. A blockhouse with a gate at the remaining open road is to be built with round-the-clock guards to keep out criminals, curious tourists from nearby hotels, joggers and Haitian refugees.

Carrington trip

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will visit Saudi Arabia for talks with Crown Prince Fahd from November 3 to 5. The purpose of the trip is to explore in detail the proposals made by Prince Fahd for an Arab-Israeli settlement. It will also be an opportunity for Lord Carrington to discuss the proposed multinational peace-keeping force for Sinai.

Paratroopers charged

Foix, Southwest France.—Three British Paratroopers, Peter Dowell, aged 36, John Lamb, 24, and Gerard Smith, 21, were charged with manslaughter here after the death of a young Algerian-born Frenchman following a brawl early on Monday. They are members of the Third Parachute Battalion on manoeuvres.

Sahara peace plan

Dakar, Senegal.—Mr Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State, arrived here from Mauritania where he said the United States would play a role in settling the Western Sahara conflict.

Indian arms deal

Paris.—India completed details of the purchase of France's Mirage 2000 combat aircraft in an arms deal worth an estimated 20,000 francs (£2,000m), French officials said.

Turkish leader assures West of good intentions

From Sinan Fisek, Ankara, Oct 23

General Kenan Evren, the Turkish head of State, gave a warning today that Turkish propaganda aimed at breaking off Turkey's links with the West came from "ideologically prejudiced circles."

In his speech inaugurating the new 160-member Constituent Assembly, which he termed as "another important step towards democracy," General Evren said he hoped the West would find in his conscience the answer to the question: who will profit if Turkey is separated from the West?

The coup of September 12 last year was neither a deviation nor a departure from democracy, he said, "but the beginning of a process to reinstate the democratic regime... in a sound and healthy manner."

This was why Turkey continued to have relations with such international organisations as the Council of Europe, the EEC and the European Parliament, he said.

Before the 160 new MPs—all named by the ruling National Security Council—were sworn in, General Evren told them that their most important task would be to prepare the new constitution. He said the guidelines for the future work of the assembly, which is made up mostly of senior civil servants, retired officers and academics.

The presidency should not be a figurehead post as it had been in the past, he said, and human rights and basic freedoms should be enhanced, but not in a way to put the state in a powerless or inactive position. There could not be a communist or religious party, and the rights and freedoms of individuals could not be unlimited.

One reason why the National Security Council, which he leads, decided to abolish political parties last week was because "it was discovered that they were in the process of introducing their manoeuvres for influence into the new assembly," he said. The assembly would draft and enact a new law on political parties.

The assembly will hold its second meeting on Tuesday to elect a Speaker.

EEC unlikely to applaud

The European Commission has yet to find an opportunity to study a text of General Evren's speech to Turkey's new Constituent Assembly, but it will take a good deal of persuading that any words really will be backed by action (Iain Murray writes from Brussels).

Concern about lack of progress towards democracy in Turkey has prompted the Commission to freeze £360m aid, and it now looks very unlikely that a planned new financial agreement between the EEC and Turkey will be approved as scheduled before the end of the month.

The Commission is particularly concerned about the ban imposed on political parties and trade unions, and has asked its representatives to investigate stories that political prisoners have been tortured.

In the light of this it is likely that the Commission will want to see something more tangible than the text of a speech before it is convinced that Turkey has taken a real step down the path towards restoring democracy.

Karpov agrees to a draw to end longest game

Merrano, Oct 23—The eighth game of the world chess championship ended in a draw on the 80th move today leaving Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world champion with an unchanged 3-1 advantage in the series over Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger.

The eighth game had been adjourned on the forty-first move. Karpov had a slightly stronger position.

Cheer experts said the result was likely to cheer Korchnoi, because Karpov was unable to win despite the advantage of playing the white pieces. AP

In our later editions yesterday, both K and N were used to indicate Knight moves, and in the diagram of the position of the game, Queen symbols were inadvertently used to indicate Kings Also White's twenty-fourth move was shown as B-R5; it should have been B-R4.

White: Karpov. Black: Korchnoi

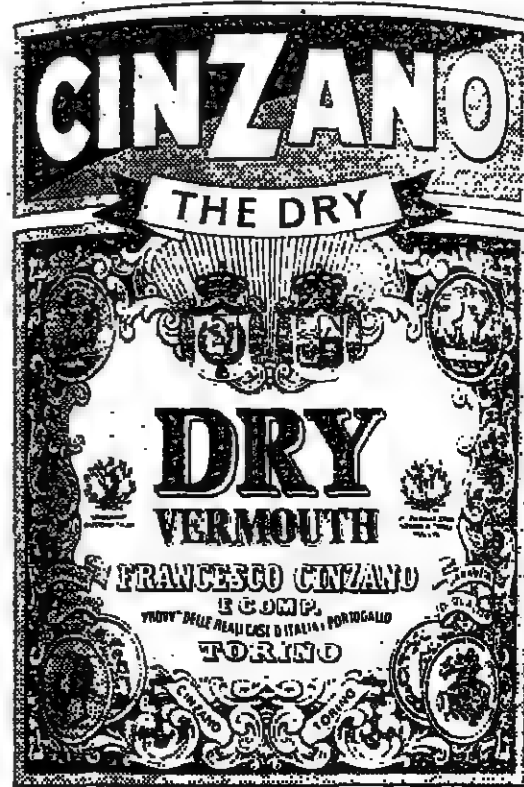
White: Karpov. Black: Korchnoi

Position when draw was agreed

Black: Korchnoi

White: Karpov

It'll be dry for an extra hour tonight.



It makes other vermouths seem a little wet.

Now Mehta moves on to Wagner Act 2

by Christopher Walker

Jerusalem

Earlier this week, a leading Hebrew newspaper printed a cartoon of an Israeli symbolically trying to block out the sound of a Wagner concert by sticking a Mercedes-Benz into one ear and a German-made television set into the other.

Zubin Mehta, the Indian-born musical director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, treasures the cutting as a graphic example of what he considers the hypocrisy of much of the violent opposition which this week sabotaged his efforts to conduct Israel's first Wagner concert.

The concert should have been given yesterday afternoon, a few hours before the start of the Jewish Sabbath. But after the fight and abuse which followed attempts to play the Prelude to Tristan and Isolde at the end of two earlier concerts, Mehta decided it should be scrapped. Apart from the general reaction, he had learnt that his militant opponents had decided to pack the hall and stop the musicians by force.

An affable and articulate cricket lover with an Indian passport and not a drop of Jewish blood in his veins, Mehta might seem an unlikely person to spark off such an emotional national debate. But the need to lift Israel's unofficial ban on Wagner — the result of his antisemitism and the association of his music with the Nazis — has become something of a personal crusade in the 13 years that Mehta has been musical director of the IPO.

In that time, few Israelis have questioned his musical talent or his personal devotion to the country. "In Vienna two years ago I was called a Jew-lover, and I replied that I was proud of it. Now, minutes after conducting the Israeli national anthem, I have been called a Nazi. I am getting it from both sides."

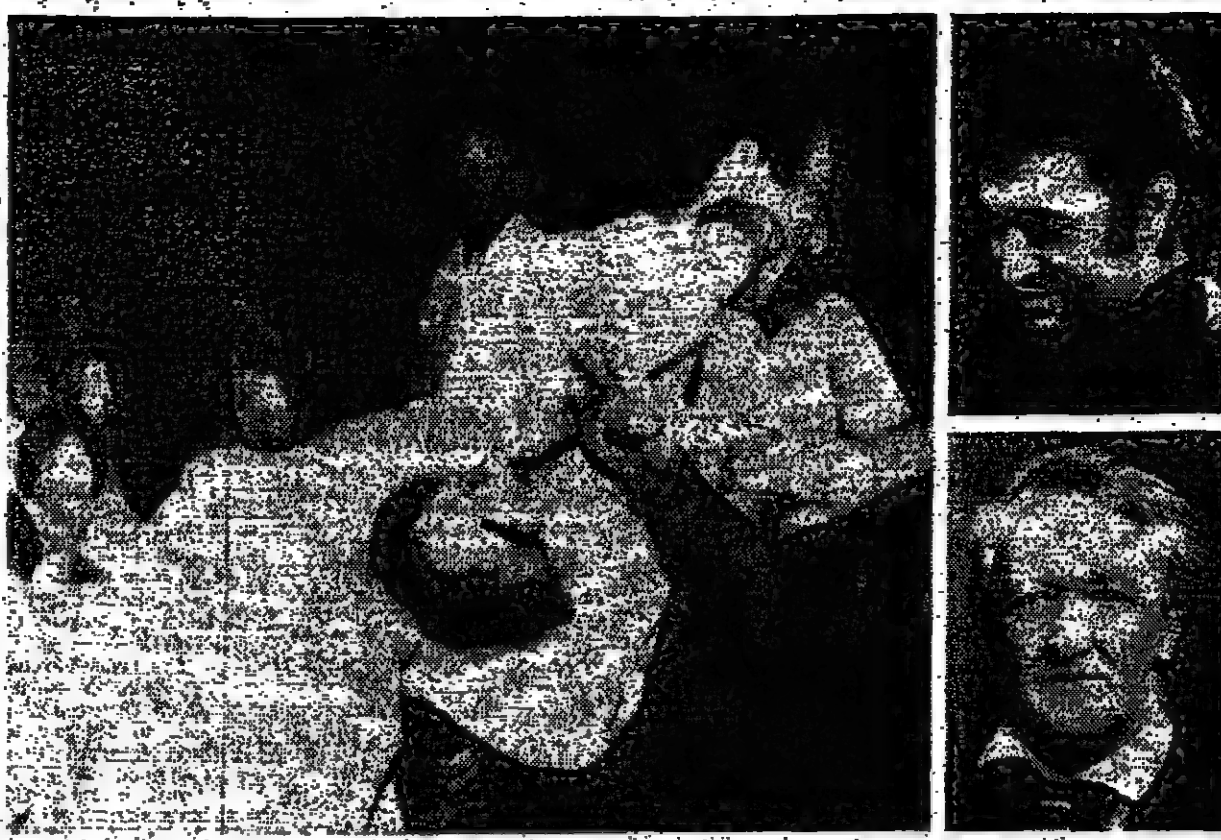
In spite of the furor, the insults and the threats, Mehta remains unrepentant about his decision, which he says was taken with the full support of 113 of the orchestra's 115 musicians (all Israeli citizens), the orchestra's board of directors, the great majority of the audience in the two concerts where the attempts to play Tristan were made, and the Israeli public at large.

"I did not do it from a political point of view. I knew the public wanted to hear Wagner and I know the musicians want to play him, and that is enough," Mehta told me. "In my conscience, I know I have done nothing wrong. I have always tried to take into account the feelings of the survivors of the Nazi holocaust."

Among Jewish musical figures abroad who sent him telegrams of support were Leonard Bernstein and Daniel Barenboim. Inside Israel, many leading music critics backed him. But other prominent Israelis were critical, among them Mr Gideon Hausner, the prosecutor in the televised trial of Adolf Eichmann. He argued that the ban should remain at least until the last survivors of the holocaust were dead.

Mehta shows no sign of ducking the debate and will try to influence opinion through the Israeli media.

He says a process of Wagnerian education must begin designed to destroy such myths circulating in Israel as the claim that Wagner (who died in 1883) was a close friend of Hitler. Pressed, he refuses to hazard any guess on when the IPO will attempt to play Wagner in public again, though he hopes it might be under Leonard Bernstein next April. I am determined to go on with the process because I think that although the first battle has been lost, a positive step has been taken. People's minds



The passions Wagner arouses in Tel Aviv: two members of the audience come to blows while the Israeli Philharmonic plays music from Tristan and Isolde. Right: Zubin Mehta and the composer he champions

have been opened. People have started thinking about the issue, and that is important.

Mehta claims that his own primary motives were musical, but that the opposition soon became political, with a small but loud minority trying to impose itself on the majority.

A cool and lucid man of 45, Mehta suddenly becomes passionate when discussing the Wagner issue. "It is vital that we do the music of the 19th century's greatest musical revolutionary after Beethoven. If an orchestra cannot play Beethoven and Wagner it might as well not exist."

He added with a note of incredulity that the IPO's concert master had never once heard a Wagnerian opera from beginning to end. "There is a complete void in the education of Israeli musicians and it is vital that it be filled."

Stylistic knowledge is lacking. Musicians three for repertoire.

He acknowledged indirectly that in the present climate, there was no hope of lifting a similar ban on the works of Richard Strauss.

Mehta claimed that the problems of trying to perform Wagner in Israel had all been envisaged in

advance and a decision taken last July to approach them "with the maximum haste". The idea of playing a Wagner work in an advertised concert, or of beginning the experiment with a Wagner-only concert, had both been dropped in favour of playing a work at the end of a normal concert — after giving the audience warning and the chance to leave.

At private rehearsals during the week the IPO played four Wagnerian works in preparation for yesterday's cancelled concert. "The effect was quite amazing. At the end of each session, the whole orchestra clapped and the applause was solely for Wagner. Only two of our members refused to play. One, who has had a heart condition for 10 years, subsequently went into hospital — and we were accused of sending him there. That is just a sign of how dirty things have been getting."

Mehta and his many local defenders (most, but not all, on the left of Israeli politics) claim that trying to ban Wagner's works raised disturbing parallels with the Nazis' own policy of burning books. "Irrespective of content — merely because they were written by Jews.

"Wagner was basically a second class human being, but I do not think Beethoven was a terribly nice person either. At some point, a man's creativity transcends his real character. After we recognize his genius, we do not need to go into his character any more."

"Bruckner was rather idiotic, naive and childlike. Mahler was a great intellectual, a towering giant. Yet if you put their music side by side, you find they are equally great cathedrals."

Whatever the final outcome of his Wagner campaign, it has ensured that Mehta will never again be treated simply as a rarefied musical genius when he makes his regular visits to Israel in the future. As he found this week when a Tel Aviv traffic policeman stopped him at 2 am for crossing a red light, he has provoked a bitter national argument which is unlikely to be conducted in rational terms.

"My father has a number on his arm and one day he is going to kill you," the policeman shouted, completely forgetting the prospective summons. "Never, ever play Wagner again."

Croydon: no normal defeat for the Tories

Does the Alliance's victory at Croydon mark a real and lasting alteration to Britain's party system? Or is it just another short-lived by-election defeat for an unpopular mid-term government?

Croydon is as good a test of current party support as any one by-election is likely to provide. It is the kind of marginal seat a party needs to win to form a government with a secure majority. Unlike Warrington, its social and political make-up is close to the national average and the three main candidates were personally and politically inconspicuous (as in most seats at a general election). With the polls showing a close contest, neither Conservative nor Labour supporters had any reason to vote tactically. Turnout was higher than average for a by-election, but not markedly so. Only the dimension of London local politics makes it slightly unusual.

The statistics of Mr Pitt's win certainly look impressive. His share of the vote almost quadrupled, from 10.5 per cent at the 1979 general election (and 11.9 per cent at the last May's GLC elections) to 40 per cent. Conservative and Labour shares dropped by 19 and 14 per cent respectively, in both cases to less than two thirds of what they were in 1979.

The Alliance took a similar number of votes from the two major parties: it was certainly more than a refuge for disaffected Conservatives.

The result proves, if further proof were needed, that the Alliance can win seats which the Liberal or SDP alone could not. To have competed against as other would have split the centre vote to the benefit, probably, of the Conservatives. The result of a Liberal standing alone, in the absence of a formal Alliance (or without backing), is less certain. But Mr Pitt's third place in the GLC elections, held after the formation of the SDP but before the Alliance, strongly suggests that the Alliance label will win.

But is the Alliance vote big enough to suggest a genuine party/realignment? One way of answering is to compare it with equivalent by-elections in the past — in Conservative-held seats under unpopular Conservative governments. On that basis there remains a tiny ray of hope for the Government.

The Conservative-to-Lib/SDP swing of 24.2 per cent was fractionally below that in Orpington in 1982 (26 per cent) and Ripon in 1973 (25.2 per cent), and well below that for neighbouring Sutton in 1972 (32.6 per cent). In the general elections that followed these earlier by-elections, the Conservatives held on to power.

Yet these comparisons underestimate the significance of the Conservative defeat. In the earlier by-elections, the Liberals had a stronger base on which to build local election successes in Sutton and Ripon, and a second place at the preceding election in Orpington. In Croydon, by contrast the 1979 Liberal vote was below its national and regional average.

Moreover, the earlier by-election "was" in a solidly Conservative seat where Conservatives knew that the protest vote for the Liberals could not let Labour in; but in marginal Croydon, to switch from Conservative to Liberal SDP was much riskier. The anti-Conservative swing may have failed to break the record, but was very substantial nonetheless.

There is not a crumb of comfort in Labour. By any yardstick, statistical or practical, their was an appalling result. It is unusual for the Opposition party's vote share to fall in a by-election, very rare when the Government is highly unpopular but almost unprecedented on the scale of Croydon (Sutton again being the exception).

Once again, the opinion polls faltered over a by-election. They picked the winner, but as in Warrington consistently underestimated the Lib/SDP vote. The MORI poll on Wednesday came closest, by incorrectly placing Labour second, overestimating its support by 5 per cent. The last Gallup poll, conducted mainly over the weekend, gave the Lib/SDP only 37 per cent. Close inspection of all the polls would have detected a gradual drift in the campaign to the Alliance and away from Labour.

Paradoxically national opinion polls by Gallup and MORI to gauge current voting intentions at a general election suggest the following changes since 1979: Alliance +25 per cent (compared with the Liberals in 1979), Conservative -20 per cent, Labour -8 per cent. In Croydon, after excluding the minor party vote, the figures were Alliance +30 per cent, Conservative -19 per cent, Labour -14 per cent.

Placed alongside the Warrington by-election, the national opinion polls and the district and county council by-elections, the result in Croydon looks more like a turning point than a flash in the pan. The swings at Warrington (27.5 per cent from the Conservatives, 23.4 per cent from Labour) were very close to Croydon's, suggesting that neither by-election was a flash in the pan.

Throughout 1981, the national polls have consistently found Alliance support to be close to 40 per cent, its seatings being as significant as its size. This support level is exactly reflected in the many but little noticed local authority by-elections.

None of this proves Mr Pitt's claim that the Alliance is now unstoppable. Much of its vote remains negative rather than positive (although that is also true, to a lesser extent, for the Labour and Conservative parties).

Gallup found that 58 per cent of voters were likely to vote for the Alliance in the next general election. In the past we have been obliged to stick to the programme for the year we presented when applying for our grant. Now, if we find ourselves with a surplus, we are likely to object if we ditch the programme and keep it running for a year," said Lord Miles.

After all, they are in the business of saving the theatre. The problem remains of finding the required smash hit. The Mermaid is investing a great deal of faith and hope in Christopher Hampton's dramatization of George Steiner's book *The Portage to St Christobal of A.H.* which will be produced early in the New Year once Lord John Silver has vacated the stage.

Lord Miles has always rejected criticism that his artistic policy is insufficiently adventurous, but he does admit that it may have been an error of judgement to reopen the theatre so soon.

Perhaps we should have ensured that the restaurant was properly established and running, and waited until Christmas to stage our first production.

Nonetheless it is plain rather than plates which people inside a theatre, and the need for a long-running smash hit which puts a bottom on every seat, every night, was never more urgent.

Lord Miles, whose personal project the Mermaid has been since he launched it in 1970, is now aged 73, is determined to hand on a going concern when he finally retires.

Alan Hamlyn

Steady nerves at the Last Chance Saloon

Crisp, clear-eyed, and accustomed to giving orders as he is, Sir John Treacher, the man who came in when Victor Lowmyer was sacked from the Playboy Club, is nevertheless rather tired of always being referred to as an admiral. "People seem to think that because I came out of the Navy, I must know nothing at all. I have been working in industry for four and a half years (National Car Parks), working at the coalface", as he puts it.

"In my book, all this —" he gestures to the neatly stacked files and records of gaming returns — "is like any other business. It has a cash flow of £200m a year of which we hold the least, that is twenty per cent. We pay £16m to the Government in corporation tax and so on. We pay £8m in wages and £7m to our suppliers, and we make about six per cent net profit."

It is visibly irked Sir John that any one in the gaming industry should suppose that he knows nothing about running a big organization like Playboy. "Anyone who wants to know about regulations ought to have their own nuclear reactor", he says, in a rare reference to his naval experience. The implication is that maintaining a set of checks and balances over gaming

tables is a good deal less complex.

In fact he has been going through a rapid learning process, in the training department, discovering the finer points of blackjack and punto banco. Before his arrival at Playboy, Sir John's gambling had been mainly of the matchsticks across the kitchen table variety. He has had tuition in learning about dirty tricks, from which the gaming industry's human nature being what it is, will always be at risk. Sir John recounts with relish how a complicated ruse involving switching banknotes, worthy of *The Sting*, can be foiled.

Appeals against the magistrates' refusal to renew the Playboy and the Clermont licences have now gone in. The game is not yet over: the roulette wheels are still spinning, and the cards still turning. Berkeley Square. The question is, will the next spin of that great wheel of fortune of the British legal system, namely the appeal hearing, put the group back on its winning ways?

The first point to note is that appeal involves a totally new hearing in which new arguments and new evidence may be adduced, before a Crown Court judge.



Sir John: 'We have tightened up'

Life at Playboy headquarters is a bit like the last chance saloon. The 1,500 staff employed in the group are working on with no assurance about their future, which makes their situation edgy. What particularly rocked the management was the

severity of the judgment against its conduct. "No one accused the clubs of bribery, corruption, fraud, embezzlement, secret bank accounts, tax evasion, or even shredding of documents," Sir John points out. "On the contrary, the case against us was

constructed from the records we kept ourselves and faithfully handed over."

Yet, he said, the magistrates' verdict, on technical offences, concerning matters like the granting of credit, was as severe as if the company had been guilty of larceny. In an argument much favoured by casino operators, Playboy managers complain that the ultimate sanction of shutting down the whole operation for minor technical offences is like bringing in the death penalty for stealing a lamb.

Just how heavily the technical offences weighed with the magistrates against other misdemeanours, or matters such as the relationship with the American parent company, is not known. The magistrates do not give reasons for their judgment. In the crown court — the hearing will probably be early in the new year, and a half while the clubs remain open — the company's record and present management's fitness will be tested before a judge and four magistrates.

While Playboy most was the finding that offences were committed "habitually" on its premises. What the premises were used for habitually, playboy's counsel insisted, was gaming. The use

of the term habitual is more than a point of semantics, because it automatically removes the magistrates' option to exercise discretion. Sir John likes to make unscheduled rounds of the casinos, sometimes late at night, to see how things are going. "If the top team sets the standard, the people down below welcome it," he declares. "No one here dislikes the fact that we have tightened up."

To ordinary mortals, the amounts of money wagered in British casinos by the high rollers are almost too heavy to think of. Even in these straitened times big players may win, or more likely lose, £100,000 in a night, and in the course of a year turn over millions.

It is not just the percentage of the game which wins for the casino, Sir John notes. "It's the velocity. The average player turns his money over several times on a night's visit. The house edge may be only one and a half per cent, but in a night's play, it comes out nearer twenty per cent." The conclusion would seem to be that casinos run more efficiently make more money.

David Spanier

Can there be a middle way?

Geoffrey Smith

The time has come when the Government will have to answer one critical question: can it live with its own differences? This is traditionally the great Conservative virtue. The capacity not to be diverted by mere conflicts of opinion, are what have made the Tories a governing party. But that seems to have changed.

From the day it took office this Government has been divided, and there is no prospect of these differences being resolved in the near future by the triumph of either wing or the other.

The Blackpool conference provided ample evidence that Mrs Thatcher still retains the support of the party activists. They would resent any attempt to dislodge her, and there is no chance of her being replaced at this stage. This is not because she commands the full personal support of either her Cabinet or the Parliamentary party. Far from it, but there is no obvious successor in whom there is full confidence, and no disposition to move effectively against her.

There has been much discussion of running a staffing election next month. The intention would not be to defeat Mrs Thatcher outright but to secure a sufficiently large minority vote against her to demonstrate the extent of the disaffection and just possibly to make her position untenable.

The difficulty has not been in discovering a credible candidate for such a role: Mr Geoffrey Rippon has the seniority, the toughness, and the enjoyment of a good fight that are required for such a task. But to many of those whose support would be essential the operation itself does not look credible. These are not easy days for a wet Conservative MP, especially if the officers of his constitu-

ency association are dry — a not infrequent combination. If he were to back another candidate for the leadership he would expose himself to considerable pressure, and a feature of Conservative politics is that the greater readiness of constituency associations to put pressure on their MPs.

It would be all right to back a successful contender, because today's rebellious backbencher would then become tomorrow's loyal subject of the new king. But to take part in an unsuccessful rebellion — even worse, one with no serious hope of outright victory — would be foolhardy.

That is how it seems to number of backbenchers who would have to support any challenge to Mrs Thatcher if it were not to fail ludicrously. They would prefer to wait until a member of the present Cabinet stands against Mrs Thatcher. But there is no sign of that happening. Many are deeply unhappy with her: one of her critical failures as Prime Minister has been her inability to come to terms with her barons. But they have not reached the point of wishing to strike against her.

So the Government is going to remain under dry leadership, but it is a leadership that is unable to secure the agreement of the Cabinet to the full economic policy that it would like. That was evident from Tuesday's Cabinet meeting. The last time the Cabinet had discussed public spending had been at the traumatic meeting of July 23 when only four ministers had

been in favour of the Treasury's plan for curbing the growth in expenditure for the next financial year — Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Leon Brittan and Sir Keith Joseph.

This week they were joined by three of the newcomers: Mr Nigel Lawson, Mr Norman Tebbit and Mr Cecil Parkinson. In some accounts Mr Norman Fowler has been added to their number; but while he expresses a general approval for the Treasury's strategy, he was firmly opposed to the specific proposals put forward — and in this instance it is the specifics that count.

Lord Hailsham and Mr Nori were absent, Lady Young did not speak, and the others were in varying degrees critical of the proposals. The meeting was not acrimonious. There was no heated argument, partly perhaps because the form of the proceedings was for each minister to take it in turn to state his general position. But the conclusion was clear. There is not now, and there does not seem likely to be, a majority in this Cabinet for the Treasury's intention to cut the spending plans for next year by approximately £3,500m, which would be consistent with a target for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement of £8,000m to £10,000m.

The Treasury's target for cuts was not endorsed, and it was not stated whether the next stage would be a further round of bilateral negotiations between the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr

Britten, and the spending ministers or whether a small group of ministers would be appointed to act as a vetting committee for departmental estimates. But whatever mechanism may be adopted, it would be a surprise if the Treasury were to get very close to their objective.

So there will be deadlock. The wet cannot get rid of dry leadership and impose an alternative strategy of their own, the dries cannot force their policy through the Cabinet, even though the Prime Minister reshuffled it in September with the obvious intention of having more like-minded ministers around her.

How can this deadlock be resolved? Another Cabinet reshuffle would hardly be feasible politically. For the Chancellor to introduce another tough Budget, and present his colleagues with a fait accompli just before delivering his speech, would impose severe strains on Cabinet cohesion.

The only reasonable course is for the Cabinet collectively to discuss not only spending but also the Budget strategy well in advance of its presentation, so that an agreed economic policy can at last be hammered out. One of the most serious weaknesses of this Government has been its failure to consider together its economic strategy with any degree of thoroughness. Such general discussions as there have been have been too short to be worthwhile.

This approach would require a readiness to compromise. It might also involve some risk of premature disclosure of the Government's intentions. But the Government's fortunes will depend critically on its being able to transform the present stalemate into a constructive compromise.

The Mermaid's stormy days

A chill economic wind has ruffled the waters of Puddle Dock at Blackfriars on the Thames. Less than four months after its widely heralded reopening as an enlarged and greatly improved theatre, the Mermaid has been forced into temporary closure.

The present production, *Shakespeare's Rome*, will come off next Saturday after three weeks, and the hopes for the theatre's dark until Lord Miles reopens his well-worn but still trusty, *Treasure Island* on December 16. Since the Mermaid reopened on July 7 after a two-year reconstruction, it has been in a state of flux.

Lord Miles relaunched his theatre with a production of *Eastward Ho!*, a Jacobean comedy previously performed at Puddle Dock in 1962. It was unenthusiastically reviewed, played to disappointing houses, and was taken off after five weeks when its losses had reached £70,000. It was an expensive play, requiring as it did an eight-piece orchestra at Musicians' Union rates.

Children Of A Lesser God, which followed with a six-week run, did much better, playing to capacity houses and now transferred to the West End. Then came the Roman effort, a combined *Julius and Cleopatra* and *Antony and Cleopatra*, which has suffered from poor reviews and the lack of any eye-catching name in the cast.

Troubles have not been confined to the artistic. Lord Miles and his staff had high hopes for the new riverside restaurant incorporated in the refurbished building; it would, they believed, attract people into the theatre and provide a substantial cash flow from its 120 seats. But it

failed to do so; within a short time its manager had to be dismissed and its doors closed.

It remains closed, while the Mermaid management debates the wisdom of bringing in professional caterers to run it, although the smaller front-of-house restaurant and its adjoining bars, remain in flourishing business.

The Mermaid now has little cash flow and no reserves. £1m appeal fund was launched several years ago to equip the new theatre and provide an operating fund, the cost of actual reconstruction having been 'borne' by the site developers in return for being allowed to build an adjoining office block. Half the fund was to have been for equipment, the other half for investment.

To date the appeal has raised only £475,000, and in the intervening period inflation has pushed the cost of equipping the interior to nearer £720,000. There is as yet nothing with which to open an investment account.

Another danger is that the Arts Council grant to the Mermaid, £150,000 this year, could be reduced next year, as it may be to many other theatres, if the Government continues to tighten its fist on the disbursement of public funds.

Lord Miles believes that six or seven years ago, he would have had no difficulty in making the theatre a target. "But inflation has roared away from us," his general manager, Anne Rawsthorne, adds that £1m is needed "to keep this ship looking good."

Plans are already in hand to keep the ship afloat. Lord Miles and his staff are preparing an aggressive sales drive to attract commercial conference and convention business to the theatre, to make the building earn its keep during the day. They believe that their well-equipped auditorium and catering facilities will provide the perfect venue for such events as product launches and sales conventions.

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Lord Miles: after a run of bad luck at the theatre he created, it's back to the old faithful *Treasure Island*

Alan Hamlyn



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CHRISTIANS AND THE BOMB

The revived Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament makes a show of its strength in London today. Many tributes feed it and they include the Christian churches, which are making an increasingly important contribution both in numbers and authority to "peace movements", especially on the continent of Europe. The churches do not of course have a monopoly of moral concern about nuclear armaments or of moral arguments against them. Nor for that matter are Christians all of one mind as to how their consciences illuminate this dark question.

The essence of the moral argument which is employed in the service of unilateral nuclear disarmament is that there are no circumstances and can be no circumstances such as to provide moral justification for the employment of the virtually limitless power of destruction locked up in the nuclear arsenals of the Soviet Union and the western alliance. It is a destructive power capable in the human race, though one suspects that specimens survive. Policies of strategic nuclear deterrence presuppose the possibility of the deliberate escalation of nuclear exchanges until the terminal point is reached. Such a policy cannot in conscience be endorsed and must be opposed.

The form of that argument is anything but new. Recital of the horrors of war has in all ages been enough to lead some to condemn it as absolutely wrong, has led them to the conclusion that no cause however good justifies preparation or engagement in warfare. Erasmus posed the question, "If you find by balancing one set of advantages and disadvantages with another that an unjust peace is better than a just war, why should you want to try the fortunes of Mars?" His question receives the modern answer, "Better Red than dead": better submission than resistance at so dreadful a cost.

More palatable to rulers (and to most of their subjects) than principled pacifism has been the theory of the just

war. The theory has two legs. The cause must be just — self-defence, liberation from tyranny etc., and the means of waging it must be proportional to the object served by it. By blowing away proportionality — the mass annihilation inherent in nuclear armaments is reckoned to be excessive — any war aim however virtuous — the nuclear dimension is held to have destroyed the concept of justifiable warfare. A just nuclear war becomes a self-contradiction.

It can be objected that this position is founded on too crude a view of the doctrine of nuclear deterrence and the pursuit of nuclear balance. Not all nuclear weapon systems are indiscriminate or limitlessly destructive in their effect. It depends on their size (there are battlefield weapons), on their precision (which is becoming very great), and their targeting (which may be directed at "key aspects of state power", a phrase used by British ministers in distinction from centres of population). In the light of those qualifications the advent of nuclear weapons may appear to be a little less apocalyptic and rather more in a line of development with the weapons of mass destruction of earlier wars. Further, to a unique degree, and probably quite genuinely on all sides, nuclear weapons are deployed not for the purpose of winning war, but for the purpose of heading off the aggression that precipitates it. The morality of their possession deserves to be judged against that motive.

However, the moralist may doubt if sufficient control could be kept over a development which the potentially vast and indiscriminate force of the weapons in the way suggested. And while conceding that the primary purpose of a nuclear strategy of flexible response is deterrence, he is entitled to point out that the effectiveness of the strategy rests ultimately on a readiness to use the weapons in the order and to the extent that the theory requires. It is that readiness — that deformity of will, as he sees it — that he refuses to sanction. Those who arrive at that

conviction (and very many do), and feel, as they must, a duty to act upon it, may proceed by one of two ways. They may conclude that nuclear warfare is so horrendous and iniquitous that it must at any cost be prevented, from happening; or they may conclude that a policy of reliance on nuclear weapons is so morally disordered that it must be rejected and the weapons themselves renounced. These different conclusions may lead in different directions, and neither runs through a landscape of moral or practical certainties.

Renunciation entails the possibility (the likelihood in the world as it is) that not all others will follow. Nuclear arms cannot be uninvited, and those left in sole possession of them would have overwhelming force at their disposal. It is unsafe to assume that the exercise of that power would be forgone. It would rest on this argument in the hands of those who had not taken the path of morality. Their will would be enforceable, their value system prevail. The moral consequence of that possibility has to be weighed against the risk inherent in a policy of nuclear deterrence.

The other path — the avoidance of nuclear war at any cost — leads immediately from moral to political judgment. It is not self-evident that the avoidance of nuclear war is best arranged by unilateral disarmament in Britain or Europe, or by popular revolt against the defence policies of western governments. Every canvassed course of action — the closure of nuclear bases, a unilateral gesture of some kind, a nuclear-free zone, rejection of nuclear weapons or the new generation of the missile withdrawal from Nato, neutralism — has to be examined, if it is put forward in the name of peace, for its practical effect on the equilibrium which, however insecurely, now preserves the peace. Moral conviction may dictate the objectives of policy, but it is no guarantee of sound political judgment and no substitute for an understanding of power politics in the present.

COMING OF AGE

The Liberals and their Social Democratic allies have every reason to be satisfied with the Croydon by-election result. They have proved that it is possible for an alliance candidate not only to secure a dramatically high share of the poll, and to come a good second, as in Warrington, but actually to win a seat in a parliamentary by-election. For a new force, struggling to establish itself in British politics, there can be no substitute for victory.

It has been especially reassuring for the Liberals in this instance. They have shown that it is possible to win without a nationally known figure. In that respect the victory has been more impressive than it would have been if it had been secured by Mrs Shirley Williams. It is only fair for those of us who counselled Mr Pitt to stand down in her favour to acknowledge this. He has also demonstrated that support for the alliance can be mobilised by a Liberal candidate as well as by a Social Democrat.

The alliance has now shown at both parliamentary and local government by-elections that it can bring into the polling booths the support that it attracts in opinion polls. If it continues along this course

its claim to form the next government will have to be taken seriously. This means that it will have to be measured by more exacting standards: for its capacity to run the country, rather than just as a healthy new force in British politics. It will not have to put itself into the straightjacket of programmatic politics, with a neatly packaged policy for everything under the sun. But it will have to develop in more depth the broad themes that would characterize an alliance administration. It will also have to let the country know according to what criteria an alliance Prime Minister would be chosen, even if it cannot announce in advance who that would be. Croydon should be seen not only as a triumph for the alliance, but also as the moment when it grew up. The age of innocence is over.

For the Conservatives Croydon offered a degree of unexpected reassurance. It is never pleasing for any party to lose a seat in a by-election, but it is not an unusual experience for a party to find itself halfway through a Parliament. It was taken for granted that this would be the Conservative fate at Croydon with the economy in such difficulties, and the party in such disarray. It had

even been widely predicted that the Conservative candidate would come third, and possibly a poor third at that. In coming second the Conservatives have established a base on which it should be perfectly possible for them to mount a recovery at the general election if the country's economic fortunes have improved by then. The evidence of Croydon suggests that they are not being wiped off the political map, as many of them had come to fear.

But for Labour, the message of Croydon is indeed grim. For what is supposed to be the principal opposition party to come third in a marginal seat when the government is in such difficulties must be considered a disastrous performance. It shows that the voters have not been reassured by those narrow victories against the hard left at Brighton. The impression persists of a party that is both gravely divided and passing under extreme left-wing control. Labour is being judged, and judged rightly, as a party that is not fit in its present condition to run the country. If this message is not heeded, Croydon will be a benchmark in the decline of Labour as a front-line party as well as in the rise of the alliance.

THE SPECIALIST

The board of the Faculty of Oriental Studies in Cambridge has come unstuck. Its proposal to remove Iranian Studies from its Tripos was rightly rejected last week by a ballot of the Regent House, Cambridge's sovereign general assembly of dons. The members of the board had made themselves appear philistines with too little appreciation of the intrinsic value of learning, egoists willing to sacrifice a colleague's department to save their own, and Stalinists determined to impose a party line on their juniors. It took great courage to be an orientalist and sign the fly-sheet opposing the proposal, according to one of its sponsors. Yet a number of orientalists did so, including some of Cambridge's most distinguished, as did many dons from other faculties.

The faculty board was presented with the all-too-familiar problem of having to make expenditure cuts in order to live within its income, and came to the conclusion that it was no longer possible "to envisage the inclusion of a

comprehensive range of important Oriental languages and subjects within the Tripos, however desirable that might seem to be on purely academic grounds". They felt that Iranian Studies was a suitable candidate for the axe since only sixteen undergraduates had actually taken the course in thirty-three years, and since the teacher of it, Dr Ilya Gershevitch, is due to retire next year.

Iranian Studies, it should be explained, are not quite what they sound. Although modern Persian is an Iranian language, it is taught separately as a subject in its own right. Iranian Studies stand in relation to it more or less as classical studies do in relation to modern Romance languages or modern Greek. They involve the languages and civilizations of ancient Iran — the land of the Aryans — a much wider area than the state which bears the name today; though by a curious anomaly they also include one modern, non-Persian Iranian language, Ossetic, a descendant of an ancient Scythian spoken by an

obscure people of the northern Caucasus.

Philologically, ancient Iranian languages are of the greatest importance for the study of the development of Indo-European languages in general — providing, as it were, the link between Indo and European. Historically, the role played by ancient Iran in the development of western civilizations, both Hellenistic and Islamic, hardly needs to be recalled. Ancient Iranian will always be a minority discipline, but one whose exponents fellow-scholars in other disciplines will always be glad to consult. It may, sadly, be necessary for Dr Gershevitch's post to be kept unfilled, for financial reasons, for a year or two after his retirement. But the proposal to remove the course — the only one available in Britain at undergraduate level — from the tripos was a mistake. The very rarity of the species makes its preservation a duty, and scholarship without counting heads is not the least of a university's services.

Proposals for young unemployed

From the Chairman of Youthaid

Sir, Your recent letters under the headings of "Understanding unemployment" and "Youth unemployment" make sad reading. My professional and personal concern is with the young and when I contemplate the apparently quite serious suggestion from Mr Cooper (October 16) that unemployment benefit can be paid only to those who congregate in disused cinemas and factories to practise "crafts, sports, medicine (sic), the arts and so on, and to be organized as an 'almost self-governing section of the community'". I know that the probes of the brave new world can be wished upon us tomorrow if we give Mr Cooper and those thinking like him their heads. Nor are Lord Horder's "large-scale leisure camps" (October 19) specially designed for the useless young, one scrap better.

Are these letters, my very dear Sir, truly representative of your readers? I think not. What is potentially the greatest tragedy and the most profound social problem confronting this country of ours? Of course boredom and social rejection are the evils resulting from the appalling and callous way in which our society is betraying its youth and its suppressing its energy, its enthusiasm and its idealism. Have these from older generations really considered what their own feelings and attitudes might have been at school-leaving age if, as for so many young people today, there were no career opening out, no soundly based training schemes readily available and leading on to good openings, no prospect of a stable home and the creation of a new family? Would they have been pleased to accept the offer of old cinemas and empty leisure camps?

There are, Sir, better ways than these defeatist and cynical solutions — ways which recognize human dignity and worth, which make well required sacrifices by older generations if they are to share their gains and their opportunities with those entering adult citizenship. Yet sharing, I believe, will be the only key to the problem because it will establish that we intend to keep faith with our youth and our country's future.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN SWALLOW, Headmaster,
Ongar Comprehensive School,
Ongar,
Essex,
October 22.

From Mr Alan Reich

Sir, Lord Horder's letter in *The Times* of October 19 surely deserves wholehearted support. May I point out the parallels today with the not dissimilar conditions

that prevailed in the United States in the 1930s?

During the depression in the early thirties in America, a degree of national service of a peace-time kind was introduced as part of the New Deal. The CCC (Civil Conservation Corps) took up some of the slack of unemployment by putting able-bodied men to work on public projects of community value: forestry improvement, making of nature trails, general land reclamation schemes, etc. There were many outlets for untapped energy in those difficult times. Even artists and writers were employed in the preparation of guidebooks and such like.

It has always seemed a great pity that our government of the day, after the last war, abolished national service as a normal transition period between school-leaving and career training.

As Lord Horder suggests, could a similar corps be formed here in our present and future? A year out after school would be both morale-boosting and those involved would have the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts were employed in socially useful ways. Yours faithfully,
ALAN REICH,
3 Winton Loan,
Edinburgh,
October 21.

From Mr R. L. Jacobs

Sir, Mr Andrew R. Cooper's letter on the inevitability of unemployment, and what to do about it (October 16) blew in a breath of harsh, fresh air. Unnecessarily harsh, I think. His suggestion that the problem be treated as "an opportunity for compulsory education" had an unpleasant tang of totalitarianism.

Society should meet its obligation to fill the dangerous vacuum into which compulsory educated school-leavers are being precipitated, not by prolonging compulsory education, but by creating educational opportunities of the kind Mr Cooper describes and (human nature being what it is) providing financial inducement to take advantage of them.

The alternative on offer should not be Mr Cooper's harsh further education-or-else-unemployment-benefit, but the option of more unemployment benefit for those who take advantage of the opportunities.

Too generous? Surely not. Most parents and grandparents would willingly foot their share of the extra taxation bill in order that something be done to save their children from the bleakness of the heart-rending situation of those worried youngsters on the box. Yours etc.,
ROBERT L. JACOBS,
27 Asmus Hill, NW11,
October 17.

Poland's new leader

From Professor Gita Ionescu

Sir, Michael Binyon's perceptive reports from Moscow are high on the list of the attractions of *The Times*, but his analysis of Russian reactions to the takeover by a General of the Communist Polish party and government (reports October 19) seems to me to go less deeply than usual. He writes: "But the Russians cannot but feel uneasy at the spectre of a fraternal party being headed by a military man: such a thing with military rule does not follow the orthodox model of communism. The Russians would not mind if a state of emergency was declared that allowed the party to take drastic measures against Solidarity, but they do not want Poland to appear like a Third World country, headed by an army general."

But who are the Russians of whom Binyon is speaking? Obviously he is referring to the leadership to the people, and he implies that the political leadership is in the hands of the official leaders of the CPSU. I think that this was true yesterday and may be only partly true today. For the Polish political crisis throws a fascinating light on the USSR political crisis.

As I wrote some months ago in an article for *Government and Opposition* (published in September 1981):

Readers may remember that in my last Reading Notice I had already drawn attention to the significance of the rise of the Polish army apparition. Of course this rise is understandable in domestic terms — in liquidation, and a Catholic Church directing the opposition, but still in need of a political "hero" which cannot be formed, the army apparition is bound to try to fill the vacuum which politics, like nature, abhors.

The significance of this ascent of the Polish army apparition lies in its relation with the USSR. The question is who within the complex policy-making machine of the USSR most favours the

Middle East regimes

From Mrs Marion Woolfson

Sir, Although I am not a supporter of Colonel Gaddafi, I think that, to be fair, some comment is in order concerning Robert Fisk's claim that Libya had broadcast "ferocious antisemitic sentiments" (October 14). Tripoli really certainly called on the Egyptians and other Arabs to oppose Zionism, but where is the "antisemitism" in this? Or have the Zionists finally succeeded in convincing *The Times* that to oppose political Zionism is to be "antisemitic"?

Anyway, this is a ridiculous term to apply to Arabs who are far more "semitic" than the majority of European Jews, but if it were true of the Libyans, I do not believe that they would have extended several invitations to me (which I have so far been unable to accept) to visit Libya, and I do not think the Libyan Government's representatives in this country would invite me, and a number of other anti-Zionist Jews, to be present at their receptions.

Yours faithfully,
MARION WOOLFSON,
35 Camden Wells, NW1.

Art works lost by poorer nations

From Dr David Hamilton

Sir, Whether or not Richard Dowden is correct in asserting (article, October 19) that it will take an Act of Parliament to permit the British Museum Trust to part with its treasures, there is no doubt that the issues of ethics, ownership and patriotism at stake are so complex that they will take many years to resolve.

An aspect of the problem created by the "looting" of other nations' treasures, which may be more manageable, arises from the seizure of historical records and archives. The 350 Ethiopian manuscripts to which Dr Richard Pankhurst refers (October 21) came from the personal collection of Emperor Theodore and include a number of documents absolutely crucial to the study of Ethiopian history. Other manuscripts of considerable importance to Ethiopian students are held in libraries at Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester and Windsor, and in Italy, France and the United States.

It seems unforgivable that of all this important material, at the moment the texts of only those documents selected and quoted by scholars travelling or writing in Europe or the USA are available for research in Ethiopia.

Could not Unesco be persuaded to divert a little of its energy to promoting the microfilm of these and other similar documents so that their texts can be quickly and inexpensively returned on microfilm for study in the home context by students and scholars of the country concerned?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HAMILTON,
164 Brixton Road, SW9,
October 22.

From Mr David Sturdy

Sir, It is very far from true to say, "No one has yet asked for the Elgin Marbles" (feature, October 16). Officially since 1833 and officially since the 1960s, the Greeks have made many requests

for the return of these great treasures, architectural sculpture which formed a vital and integral part of several still-surviving structures.

All too often the acquisition of cultural treasures has been accompanied by wishful thinking, self-deceit and plain dishonesty, though it is frequently difficult to tell which of those involved is suffering from which of these mental defects.

The authorities of the Cabinet des Medailles of the Bibliotheque Nationale have accused the British Museum of benefiting from the proceeds of burglary. They have several times alleged that a number of the treasures of St. Denis, taken in a daring theft in 1804, were smuggled across the Channel in a plaster-cast of the Laocoon (in wartime) and soon passed into our national collections through the hands of the collector Townley.

The truth has never been revealed and, in fact, the principal item mentioned in this tale, Abbot Suger's chalice, can be seen, not in the British Museum, but in the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

The great Provençal collector and savant Fabre de Peiresec, set an example for us all when it turned out that a group of classical inscriptions, assembled for him in the Aegean, had instead reached London, to grace Lord Arundel's House in the Strand (and now to be seen in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford). He "rejoiced, when he heard that those rare Monuments of antiquity, were fallen into the hands of so eminent an Hero. For, his utmost wish being publick profit, he thought it mattered not whether he or some other had the glory, provided that what was for the good of the Common-wealth of learning might be published".

Yours truly,
DAVID STURDY,
54 Hawley Road, NW1,
October 21.

Yours faithfully,
RACHEL GIBBS,
OLIVER SEBAG-MONTEFIORE,
HM Prison, Pentonville,
Caledonian Road, N7.

The news was nevertheless leaked to the evening press, that alone would not have caused such concern. But I was not then contactable and *The Times* article, written but unused some weeks earlier, concerned with mandatory reselection in general terms and not with my subsequent decision about reselection, was taken out of cold storage.

As an ex-newspaperman I well understand the problems of late-night decisions and deadlines. But what appeared has caused no considerable anguish and embarrassment. It looks as though I deliberately misled my local management committee and dishonourably sought to adversely affect Labour's Croydon vote. Whatever my current misgivings, such behaviour would be unforgivable and nothing could be further from the truth. I hope you will allow me to put the record straight.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GRANT,
House of Commons.

the view that it was designed to "escape from the painful realities of deciding how much higher education this country can afford — and how much it can afford to forego". With respect, Sir, you misunderstand the point at issue for government to decide the national level, which it does when it determines the UGC appropriation.

The UGC then allocates that sum and thereby determines the pattern as between — and to a lesser extent within — the universities. It is this process of apportionment which I have suggested deserves further thought. In doing so, I am not suggesting that the level of funding now being made available for the university system is adequate to sustain the Robbins principle in the years immediately ahead. The eloquent letter you published from the Vice-Chancellor of Durham on the same day as your editorial illustrates that the Robbins principle has been abandoned, and our experience at Stirling also confirms this sad fact.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH ALEXANDER,
The University of Stirling,
Stirling,
Scotland,
October 13.

Bridling at Brideshead

From the Reverend A.H. Mead

Sir, Although Evelyn Waugh knows now, I suppose, that Anglican orders are valid, he will have been surprised to learn from Lord Brideshead that the Bishop of London has in restriction over private Roman Catholic chapels in the depths of the country.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MEAD, Librarian,
St Paul's School,
Lonsdale Road,
Barnes, SW13.

Secondly, you discuss whether the present mechanisms for distributing finance are the best and comment on my suggestion that more influence could be accorded to student choice and therefore less to the University Grants Committee. There are many implications of such a shift which require most careful examination before implementation would be supportable. Given widespread dissatisfaction with the UGC (illustrated, for example, by statements on the radio from the President of the Confederation of British Industry and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition on the evening before your editorial appeared), it is surely sensible to look at possible alternatives. You found your opinion that my suggestion "on almost certainly mistaken" on

Saturday Review

A.J. Langguth salutes an Edwardian writer whose mixture of high comedy and cruelty seems admirably attuned to the Eighties.



Saki on fatigues as a private soldier in the 22nd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers

The man who called himself Saki

The writer who called himself Saki was clever enough; the critics of his own day, those languid years before World War I, never disputed his wit. But even as they laughed, they were dubious about recommending his short stories to a larger public. The *Athenaeum*, for example, wondered whether any reader of Saki could ever be induced to return to the wholesome fare. The *Spectator* worried that a vein of freakish inhumanity in the work might disconcert the plain person. And so, in the years after his death in 1916, Saki retained a reputation as a rare delicacy, a touchstone to which to appraise new acquaintances. If they did not embrace Saki, the fault was theirs, never his.

Adding perhaps to his appeal was the absence of vulgar biographical detail about the man who had taken his pen name — a "pseudonym of the recondite sort" that makes people shy," complained the critic I. C. Squire — from the pages of Omar Khayyam. Even an enthusiast was likely to know little more than that Hector Hugh Munro had been raised by two quarrelsome and malignant aunts; that he had been shot dead by a sniper in the trenches in France at the age of 45; that his devoted sister, Ethel, had published a brief memoir, and then destroyed his letters and personal writings.

So the 140 stories, the two novels and the one play stood on their shelf in English letters like highly polished seashells, formed by unseen pressures, admirable for their effortless perfection. When I undertook to write Hector Munro's life, I was less daunted by the myth that our materials had survived than by the strenuous pleading from some of his admirers that a biography might only quash the precious produce of his life, as though I were proposing to set a brass hen on his nest of plover's eggs.

But as I came to understand the forces that had acted on Hector Munro, my admiration for his brilliant stories only increased. And as it turned out, there was more material to work with than legend had allowed. Even a woman like Ethel Munro, heirless to the Munro energy and martial spirit, could not eradicate her brother's every trace. To begin with, there was the notebook that settled at last the question of Hector's pen name. It had been stored in the attic of his niece, Mrs Juniper Bryan of Belfast. A fair, comely woman, Mrs Bryan gave me a tea complete with potato bread as we lamented together her Aunt Ethel's assault on Hector's effects. Still, she added, some time after Ethel's death those few mementoes that survived had been moved to her own home. If I liked, I could come to stay with Mrs Bryan and her husband, Pat, and comb through their attic at my leisure.

Gratefully I accepted the offer. In June 1979, with hopes unbounded, I climbed to the top of their house and began turning out every box and trunk.

In one old suitcase, I found a commonplace book and recognized at once Hector's spiky bold script; Mrs Bryan confirmed that the hand-

writing belonged to her uncle. In the book, amid fragments of Hector's own beginning work and quotations from other writers, he had copied out five stanzas from Omar Khayyam about Saki the cupbearer.

Not only were the lines filled with elegiac despair, however; they were also an injunction to meet Death bravely when it came. I was beginning to understand that Hector's inheritance — the Munros were Army and police officers; his mother's father an admiral — had left him riven. The youthful side to his temperament loved elegance, wit, practical jokes. The other side, gradually tightening its hold over him as he aged, thrilled to duty, suffering and gallant death. The quotation from Omar spoke for both natures.

The notebook also laid to rest a minor literary debate. Critics after his death had disputed the origin of the pen name; one editorial writer in 1916 reported with an air of authority that it was a shortening of Nagasaki. Now, with his own hand, Hector had resolved the question.

Another treasury of Saki material rested undisturbed at the Colindale newspaper archive of the British Library. Bound editions of the *Morning Post*, dated from 1902, when Hector went out to the Balkans as a foreign correspondent, revealed his whereabouts, activities, even his feelings, over an eight-year period.

Although he was new to the trade of journalism, he wrote from the start with immense assurance and employed the first person with no self-consciousness. It became clear that Hector was a man who craved excitement but had learned from his aunts never to show emotion. To display sentiment left one exposed to the world's mercy, and Hector knew the world had no mercy. As a result, he covered dozens of riots and disorders, including the 1905 march on the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, but he was careful always to stand aloof to the passions roiling around him.

After King Alexander of Serbia and his queen, Draga, were dragged from their bedchambers and thrown from the palace windows, Hector allowed that there had been drama to the murders. But when the first chill had passed and a new king installed, he concluded: "I had seen a King-choosing, a Königsstuhl — one must put the word in German to get its fullest effect — and it had not come up to expectations."

Some ten years later, when life itself was not living up to expectations, Hector knew the remedy. He put on the uniform of an enlisted man and went off to kill Germans or be killed by them.

(There was a bonus to the days at the Colindale archive. While paging through newspapers and magazines for Hector's dispatches, I came upon "The Pond" and five other stories that had been overlooked when Ethel Munro and his editor brought out two posthumous collections of his work.)

Meanwhile, a locket from the Bryan attic had raised perhaps the most troubling question of a biographer of Saki to address. "Oh, yes",

said Juniper Bryan when I produced the gold heart set with a turquoise. "That belonged to Aunt Ethel!"

But prizing open its tiny hinges, we read the hand-written inscription: "8th May 1908", on one side. On the other: "Hector With best love Cyril". Mrs Bryan remarked that it was an odd trinket for her uncle to have received. I could only agree.

In 1963, when J. W. Lambert was about to publish his splendid introduction to the Bodley Head Collected Saki, the Munro family suggested that he delete two references to Hector's possible homosexuality. Now Mrs Bryan explained that she and her sister had made the request, which Mr Lambert honoured, only to spare pain to their mother, Hector's sister-in-law, who was still living at the time.

Any doubts about that aspect of Hector's life were resolved for me during an immensely entertaining conversation with Ben Travers in his basement flat in London. Long before he became a successful playwright, Travers had worked as an editor for John Lane, Saki's publisher. He had met Hector in the Lane offices in 1911, when Ben was in his mid-twenties and Hector just past forty.

They had lunched a few times at Hector's club, the Cocoa Tree, and the younger man felt that he had never met a man who was better dressed or more flawlessly groomed.

By the time of our talk, Travers was past ninety, but with his robust frame and his supple mind, I could fully expect that he would celebrate his hundredth birthday in a London theatre, watching a revival of one of his farces.

The National Theatre had recently introduced a new generation to Travers's *Plunder*, and we agreed that the time was right, at last, for Saki. The mixture of high comedy and cruelty that had given pause to critics of his own time had been imitated often, never surpassed, over the last sixty years. Writers like Evelyn Waugh and Noel Coward had taken Saki as their master, but in the 1980s what had once been a rarefied taste had become more generally acquired. Readers were harder to shock and harder to amuse, but Saki, we were sure, was still admirably equipped to accomplish the latter.

Although he spoke freely about Hector's homosexuality, Ben Travers paused to remind me that "many of our brilliant men have suffered in that way." To him, it was not the important thing about Saki, and he wanted to be sure that I appreciated Saki's kindness, generosity and courage.

Some months ago, when I read of Ben Travers's death, I was sorry I had counted so heavily on his indestructibility. Why hadn't I sent him copies of "The Pond" and the other stories I had found? They may not be the very best of Saki, but I know they would have cheered Ben Travers. He had admired the man, but he had loved the wit.

A. J. Langguth's *Saki: A Life of Hector Hugh Munro* will be published by Hamish Hamilton at £12.50 next Thursday.

An "uncollected" short story.

The Pond

Mona had always regarded herself as cast for the tragic role; her name, her large dark eyes, and the style of hairdressing that best suited her, all contributed to support that outlook on life. She wore habitually the air of one who has seen trouble, or, at any rate, expects to do so very shortly, and she was accustomed to speak of the Angel of Death almost as other people would speak of their chauffeur waiting round the corner to fetch them at the appointed moment.

Fortune-tellers, noting this tendency in her disposition, invariably hinted at something in her fate which they did not care to speak about too explicitly. "You will marry the man of your choice, but afterwards you will pass through strange fires," a Bond Street two-guinea palm-olist had told her. "Thank you," said Mona, "for your plain-speaking. But I have known it always."

In marrying John Waddacombe, Mona had mated herself with a man who shared none of her intimacy with the shadowy tragedies of what she called the half-seen world. He had the substantial tragedies of his own world to bother about, without straining his mental eyesight for the elusive and dubious distractions belonging to a sphere that lay entirely beyond his range of vision; or, for the matter of that, his range of interests.

Potato blight, swine fever, the Government's land legislation, and other pests of the farm absorbed his attention as well as his energies, and even if he had admitted the possibility of such a disease as soul-sickness, of which

Mona recognised eleven distinct varieties, most of them incurable, he would probably have prescribed a fortnight at the seaside as the most hopeful and natural remedy. There was no disguising the fact, John Waddacombe was of the loam, loamy. If he had cared to go into politics he would have been known inevitably as honest John Waddacombe, and after that there is nothing more to be said.

Two days, or thereabouts, after her marriage, Mona had made the tragic discovery that she was yoked to a life-partner with whom she had little in common, and from whom she could expect nothing in the way of sympathetic understanding. Anyone else, knowing both her and John and their respective temperaments, could have advanced her that information the moment that the engagement was announced. John was fond of her in his own way, and she, in her quite different way, was more than a little fond of him; but they trafficked in ideas that had scarcely a common language.

Mona set out on her married life with the expectation of being misunderstood, and after a while John arrived at the rather obvious conclusion that he didn't understand her — and was content to "leave it at that." His wife was at first irritated and then disheartened by his attitude of stolid unconcern. "Least said, soonest mended" was his comfortable doctrine, which failed woefully when applied to Mona's share of the reticence. She was unhappy and perturbed about their lack of soul-fellowship; why couldn't he

be decently distressed about it also?

From being at first theatrically miserable she became more seriously affected. The morbid strain in her character found at last something tangible to feed on, and brought a good appetite to the feeding. While John was busy and moderately happy with his farm troubles, Mona was dull, unoccupied, and immoderately unhappy with her own trouble.

It was at this time, in the course of one of her moody, listless rambles, that she came across the pond. In the high chalky soil of the neighbourhood, standing water was a rarity, with the exception of the artificially made duckpond at the farm and one or two cattle pools. Mona knew of no other for miles round.

It stood in a clay "socket" in the heart of a neglected beech plantation on the steep side of a hill, a dark, evil-looking patch of water, fenced round and overgrown with gloomy yews and monstrous decaying beeches. It was not a cheerful spot, and such picturesqueness as it possessed was all on the side of melancholy; the only human suggestion that could arise in connection with the pool was the idea of a dead body floating on its surface.

Mona took to the place with an instantaneous sense of fascination; it suited her temperament, and it mightily suited her mood. Nearly all her walks led her to the beechwood, and the Mecca of the wood was always the still dark pond, with its suggestion of flimsy depths, its silence, its air of an almost malignant dependency. If one could indulge

in such a flight of fancy as to imagine a hill rejoining, or a valley smiling, one could certainly picture the pond wearing a sullen, evil scowl.

Mona wore all sorts of histories about the pool, and in most of them there was some unhappy, fate-buffed soul who hung wearily over its beckoning depths and finally floated in sombre spectacular repose among the weeds on its surface, and each time that she reshaped the story she identified the victim more and more with herself. She would stand or sit on the steeply inclined bank that overhung the pond on every side, peering down at the water and reflecting on the consequences that would follow a slip of her foot or an incautious venturing over-near the edge.

How long would she struggle in those unfathomable weed-grown depths before she lay as picturesquely still as the drowned heroine of her tale-weavings, and how long would she float there in peace, with the daylight and moonlight reaching down to her through the over-arching catafalque of yew and beech, before searchers discovered her resting-place, and haled her body away to the sordid necessities of inquest and burial? The idea of ending her dependencies and soul troubles in that dark, repose-inviting pool took firmer and clearer shape; there seemed a spirit lurking in its depths and smiling on its surface that beckoned her to lean further and yet further over its edge, to stand more and more rashly on the steep slope that overhung it.

She took a subtle pleasure in marking how the fascination grew

on her with each visit; how the dread of the catastrophe that she was courting grew less and less. Every time that she reluctantly tore herself away from the spot there seemed a half-jeering, half-reproachful murmur in the air around her. "Why not today?"

And then, at a timely moment, John Waddacombe, hearty as an ox, and seemingly proof against weather exposure, fell suddenly and critically ill with a lung attack that nearly triumphed over doctors and nurses and his own powers of stubborn resistance. Mona did her fair share of the nursing, while the case was critical, fighting with greater zeal against the death that threatened her husband than she had shown in combating the suggestion of self-destruction that had gained so insidious a hold on her.

And when the convalescent stage had been reached she found John, weak and rather fretful as he was after his long experience of the sick-room, far more lovable and sympathetic than he had been in the days of his vigour. The barriers of reserve and mutual impatience had been broken down, and husband and wife found that they had more in common than they had once thought possible. Mona forgot the pond, or thought of it only with a shudder; a healthy contempt for her morbid weakness and silliness had begun to assert itself. John was not the only one of them who was going through a period of convalescence.

The self-pity and the coquetry with self-destruction had passed away under the stress of new sympathies and interests; the

morbid undercurrent was part of Mona's nature, and was not to be cast out at a moment's notice. It was the prompting of this undercurrent that led her, one day in the autumn, to pay a visit to the spot where she had toyed so weakly with stupid, evil ideas and temptations. It would be, she felt, a curious sensation to renew acquaintance with the place now that its fascination and potential tragedy had been destroyed.

In outward setting it was more desolate and gloom-shrouded than ever; the trees had lost their early autumnal magnificence, and rain had soaked the fallen beech leaves into a paste of dark slush under foot. Amid the nakedness of their neighbours, the yews stood out thick, and black, and forbidding, and the sickly growth of fungoid things showed itself prominently amid the rotting vegetation.

Mona peered down at the dark, ugly pool, and shuddered to think that she could ever have contemplated an end so horrible as choking and gasping to death in those foul, stagnant depths, with their floating surface of slime and creeping water insects and rank weed-growth. And then the thing that she recoiled from in disgust seemed to rise up towards her as though to drag her down in a long-deferred embrace. Her feet had slipped on the slippery surface of sodden leaves and greasy clay, and she was sliding helplessly down the steep bank to where it dropped sheer into the pool.

She clutched and clawed frantically at yielding roots and wet, slippery earth, and felt the weight of her body pull her downward with an increasing

momentum. The hideous pool, whose fascination she had courted and slighted, was gaping in readiness for her; even if she had been a swimmer there would have been little chance for her in those weed-tangled depths, and John would find her there, as once she had almost wished — John who had loved her and learned to love her better than ever, John whom she loved with all her heart.

She raised her voice to call his name again and again, but she knew that he was a mile or two away, busy with the farm life that once more claimed his devoted attention. She felt the bank slide away from her in a dark, ugly smear, and heard the small stones and twigs that she had dislodged fall with soft splashes into the water at her feet; above her, far above her it seemed, the yews spread their sombre branches like the roof-span of a crypt.

"Heavens alive, Mona, where did you get all that mud?" asked John in some pardonable astonishment. "Have you been playing catch-as-catch-can with the pigs? You're splashed up to the eyes in it."

"I slipped into a pond," said Mona.

"What, into the horse-pond?" asked John.

"No, a pond out in one of the woods," she explained.

"I didn't know there was such a thing for miles round," said John.

"Well, perhaps it would be an exaggeration to call it a pond," said Mona, with a faint trace of resentment in her voice; "it's only about an inch and a half deep."

The Hy

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Collectors' Diary/Geraldine Norman

Banzai! you bidders

The Royal Academy fired the pistol last week for the Great Japan Craze. Their winter exhibition devoted to the "Great Japan Exhibition", as they like to call it, is a great visual experience.

Western collectors have hitherto devoted themselves largely to the minor arts of Japan, netsuke carvings, inro and lacquer, sword fittings and metalwork, prints and porcelain. The Royal Academy show includes examples of all these art forms but puts them in the context of the major arts, painting and sculpture — hitherto little known or understood in the West since few important examples have ever left Japan.

The impact of the exhibition derives from the unfamiliar but consistent aesthetic that runs through all the major and minor arts; it combines a strong attachment to nature, flowers, birds, landscape, even the elements, on one hand, to human

and auctioneers are making sure that plenty of opportunities are available over the next week or so.

While the trade exhibitions provide an admirable extension and complement to the Academy show, a word of caution is not out of place. Japanese painting and sculpture has been little traded in the West hitherto. It abounds in the same problems of misattribution and restoration as Western art but Western experts have not yet had the opportunity of learning their way around them.

Before indulging in expensive purchases it may be wise to seek out Japanese, as opposed to Western, advice. Alternatively you can protect yourself by buying from dealers of high repute who can be relied on to take back items that are subsequently questioned. Another alternative is to spend small sums on pieces where attribution or condition is unimportant to the price.

With that caveat, where do you go and look? In the West, Colnaghi's is just round the corner from the Academy, at the southern end of Old Bond St. Last week they opened a major exhibition of *One Thousand Years of Art in Japan* which runs until November 27.

The show is almost exclusively devoted to painting and sculpture and includes some fascinating early pieces that



predates the Edo period. The aesthetic approach that is such a delight at the Academy continues unabated here.

But the quiet spiritual calm of the early sculptures is a new feature; a large wood carving of Yakushi Nyorai, the Healing Buddha, is an outstanding example from around 1150. It is priced at £50,000.

The late seventeenth century double portrait of Sokubi and Senpo, founders of the Zen Buddhist sect of the Rinzai, is a special painting of the two monks and products of the imagin-

ation, as with Western paintings of saints. In this case the artist Kina Genki was a contemporary of the monks, and could have painted from the life.

For sheer visual delight you would have to go far to match the "Maple Tree in Autumn" by Ikeda Kōson (1801-1866), the texture of the leaves and trunk brilliantly rendered in ink and colours on silk (£14,000).

Blue and Sons of 48 Davies St, one of London's leading specialist dealers in Chinese art, open an exhibition titled *Chesel, Wheel and*

Brush on Monday which also runs until November 27.

As the title implies, this exhibition is largely devoted to the applied arts though it includes some outstanding wood and gilt bronze Buddhist sculptures.

It includes only 23 items, each carefully selected as a masterpiece. The items belong mainly to Japanese dealers with a few items from America, for the pieces have been gathered and the catalogue organized by Mr Harry Packard, an American dealer who has spent the last 30 years in Japan. He has persuaded leading museum experts from Japan to collaborate on the catalogue which thus achieves a remarkable standard of scholarship. Mr John Ayers of the Victoria and Albert Museum is to open the exhibition on Monday, providing a stamp of approval from the world of British scholarship.

Notable among the pieces is a sixteenth century gold lacquer writing box with a design of plover (£16,000), a thirteenth century votive plaque with a bronze image of Hishamotomori, one of the four devils, guardian deities (£30,000), and a late sixteenth century tea ceremony dish of Oribe pottery (£16,000).

An exhibition of *Bird and Flower Paintings* opens at Milne Henderson, 99 Mount Street, on Wednesday. The importance of nature themes in Japanese art is underlined by the Academy and here 32 paintings are on offer ranging in date from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century (and in price from £1,000 to £45,000).

The exhibition includes both large screens and hanging scrolls. Notable is the inclusion of a scroll painting by Moronobu, the greatest sixteenth century painter and founder of the Kano school; his brother Yukiobu and his son Shōei are also represented. The large scale bird and flower scene painting of the Momoyama period (late 16th century, to 1610) are not usually allowed out of Japan, but the exhibition includes one large (unpainted) piece.

For those with enthusiasm but more modest resources, the exhibition of *Japanese Works of Art at the Mayfair Hotel*, Grosvenor Street, is a more hopeful hunting ground. It opens at 6.30 pm on Wednesday (till 9 pm), runs from 12 till 8 pm on Thursday and Friday, and from 12 to 6 pm on Saturday October 31.

Many London dealers have got together to put on this show: Odile Cavendish, Sydney L. Moss, Tokyo Gallery, Robin Kennedy, Tempus Antiques, Henry Woods-Wilson and Hiroshi Yanagi. They are showing a mix of sculpture, lacquer, painting, screens, prints, netsuke, carvings, porcelain, textiles, cloisonné, bronze, swords and sword fittings.

There will be some 500 pieces on show with prices ranging from £60 to £10,000. The cheaper end of the market will be represented by porcelain, prints and netsuke carvings.

Not that netsuke carvings, the tiny toggles or buttons used to attach a pouch to the belt, are necessarily cheap. Eskenazi, at 166 Piccadilly, just opposite the Academy, is exhibiting a small netsuke from the collection of Professor and Mrs John Hull Grundy, an opportunity to acquire top examples.

Down the road at Spink's in Duke Street there are also important netsuke mixed with lacquer, sculpture and porcelain. Spink's got in first with their small Japanese exhibition which closes today; the unsold items will remain on view through the autumn.

Chess/Harry Golombek

Mechanical failings

On this page some months ago I marvelled at the progress made by chess-playing machines in 1980. In fact we were witnessing only the opening stages of their development and practice. Having recently examined no less than 10 new machines, it seems that we are now in the early middle-game, and by this time next year we shall be viewing the transition from middle-game to ending.

The machines have advanced tactically and technically so that, even at the weakest levels, they can readily sport a combination provided it is not more than two moves deep, and, since modern technique concentrates so heavily on the openings, they have markedly improved in the opening field. Even so, they are not yet capable of dealing with a master player, notably in the endings.

If you happen to find yourself in trouble in the opening stages of a game against one of these robots, make with the utmost speed for the ending and you will find yourself once again masquerading in the role of the condescending master.

You will be assisted in this manoeuvre by the fact that the machines still love to make captures and, on the lower levels at any rate, tend to make little distinction between major and minor pieces. Positionally, too, they have much to learn, and they irritate me enormously by making a practice, almost a fetish, of placing their Q Knight in front of the QBP in closed positions. Perhaps most irritating of all is their persistence in playing on in hopeless positions. Cannot they be programmed to resign when well down or when mate is inevitable?

All this said, I must confess that I find it more difficult to master most of the machines I have examined recently than those I studied earlier in the year. A case in point is the Champion Sensory Chess Challenge, so called because it won the first World Microcomputer Chess Championship in London in September last year and also the first North American Microcomputer Chess Championship in San Jose, California, in that year. This is a new version of a machine I studied earlier and retains all the features that distinguish it from its competitors.

It has a section devoted to the 64 greatest games by world champions and challenges you to find out what the moves were. Perhaps it should add a section giving the 64 worst games ever played by world champions, in which case it would find ample provision for such a collection in the current world championship match.

The machine has improved the section on book openings, by which you can choose the opening you wish to play, and gives you the latest analysis of that particular opening. For example, in the previous model I regularly forced it in the opening by starting off with a Ruy Lopez, 1 P-K4, P-K4, 2 N-KB3, N-QB3; 3 B-N5, P-QR3; and then transposing to a Guoco Piamo by playing 4 B-B4, N-B3; 5 N-B3, P-QN4; 6 B-Q5, when I threatened both NxP and N-N5.

The present price of the machine is £225. That may seem quite a lot but one of its rivals, the Auto Response Board, costs £649. Admittedly, the Auto Response Board has some luxurious advantages. It is perhaps the easiest and most comfortable of all the playing machines to use since all you have to do is to pick up the piece and make the move fairly and squarely. With the Challenger you have to press the pieces, slantways on the board, and I have often found it difficult to find the point where the magnetic contact lies. Also it has a changeable module and therefore a changeable programme.

But the machine is not as sturdy as the Champion Sensory Chess Challenge, and the chief reason for its high price lies in its handsome, massive workmanship. It did once surprise me with what I thought was a new move in the Scotch Game with 1 P-K4, 2 N-KB3, N-QB3; 3 P-Q4, P-Q4. But I have since discovered this third move was a favourite with the American champion Frank Marshall, who played it in the early 1920s.

I thought I would test the opening section of the Champion Chess Challenger by trying out the variation of the Ruy Lopez with which Korchnot won the sixth game of his world championship match with Merano. The game was played, a few days after the world championship game.

White: Homo Insipiens, Black: Champion Sensory Chess Challenger, Ruy Lopez.

1 P-K4 P-K4 7 B-N5 P-Q4
2 N-KB3 N-QB3 8 P-Q2 B-B3
3 B-N5 P-QR3 9 P-Q3 B-QB4
4 B-B4 N-B3 10 Q-N2 Q-N2
5 Q-Q1 N-P 11 B-B2 B-B4
6 P-Q4 P-QN4 12 N-K3 B-QN3

All up to here as in the world championship match; but now Korchnot played 12... B-KN3. It should be observed that the B-QN3 move is quite a natural one and occurred in other games later on, for example in the 1969 USSR championship tournament between Tukmakov and Savon 12... B-KN3; 13 P-QR4, B-QN3. Or in Koshchakov, Poland, 1973: 12... B-KN3; 13 K-N4, N-N3; 14 P-N3, B-QN3.

(Position after 15... B-N3). Best in the game, I pressed the button before this move to see what the intentions of the machine were and it played 15... P-QB4 which lost a piece after 16 P-B3. So then I returned to the position as it was before all this, allowing it to play B-N3.

16 B-K3 P-QB3
17 K-N4 N-N 15 P-B4 B-N3
18 N-N3 B-N3

This also is best; the threat is 17... P-B3 followed by a number of exchanges and R-QB1.

A cunning way of ridding himself of the loss of his Bishop by 19 P-B5

19 P-B5 B-B4 21 Q-N2 Q-N1
20 Q-N1 Q-N2

A better line was 21... Q-R1 aiming at P-QB4 eventually.

22 B-N3 P-B3 24 P-QN4 B-B2
23 P-B3 P-B3 25 P-B3 R-P

Now the game is lost but in any case it had little to play for.

The ending is quite lost, but this wastes further time and is a typical ending mistake of the machine.

26 P-B3 R-P 29 K-B1 R-Q1
27 R-B1 R-Q1 30 K-B2 K-B2
28 R-B1 R-Q1 30 K-B2 K-B2
29 R-B1 R-Q1 30 K-B2 K-B2
30 R-P ch P-B3 43 R-B8

and the game went on for another 14 moves before Karpov resigned the hopeless ending.

New York/John Heilpern

Hit the road to dreamland

"Nobody can know better than you that nature makes use of the instrument of human fantasy to pursue her work of creation on a higher level."

"True enough, true enough, but where does all this get us?"

"Nowhere. I only wish to show you that one is born into life in so many ways, in so many forms."

Sometimes, concerned as I undoubtedly am with the theatre of illusion and American Dreams, I am asked what it really like to be rich and famous in New York, and the answer is, it's very nice.

Provided it happens to you. If it doesn't happen to you — what can I say? It isn't so nice. In fact, it can be horrible. But I see that I am drifting into bitterness. Permit me, then, to illustrate my feelings on the matter by way of a fantasy show playing in Manhattan — call it "The Low Life Show".

I was refused entry to "The Low Life Show". How low, I hear you ask, can a man get? Extremely low. I was refused entry twice. Two years ago, when I first came to New York eager to taste all the shows this essentially showbiz city has to offer, the supreme symbol of illusion was that form of living theatre (or night of the living dead) known as Studio 54.

The paying customers were the show. People dressed up, or down, to rock, pop, snort, smoke, trip and zonk the night away, to be seen midst disco freaks and bald trunks, vestiges, insouciant trash and macho gay, jet-set flotsam and Bianca, Jackie O, Halston, and everyone.

The interiors were the stage set. This fantasy celebration

of nostalgia de la boue was acted out to light projectors and back-drops, moving scenery and arc lamps, special theatrical effects leading to escapade entrances and exits.

But the entrance was the thing, this was the show of shows (and therefore a hot ticket). Each night of the week, hundreds of people, humiliated, would wait weekly in line in the form of hope of being allowed entry. Some, specially costumed, would beg the guards and bouncers bearing the way to single them out of the faceless crowd, only to be ignored by the Incredible Hulks who maliciously turned them away. Fists would sometimes fly, violent rituals creating more publicity for the show.

My first entrance was somewhat privileged, for I had been given the equivalent of a seat in the rear box as invitation to a private party. "Leave this to me, darling," I said to my wife, striding confidently through the crowd outside, past punks with safety pins in their noses, and boys in one of several bouncers on the door. I presented my credentials: private party, VIP invite, honorary celebrity status, distinguished member of the press, Englishman, and only a white lie — personal friend of Vitas Gerulaitis.

I felt it best to be bold. The bouncer looked me up and down. Something was wrong. "I told you," I whispered to my wife, "that I should have worn a dress, too late."

"Stand in line, jerk," said the bouncer, beginning to advance. "Let's go," said my wife, sensing trouble. "Leave this one to me, darling," I

announced, "people will always listen to reason."

Whereupon the truth of that particular illusion suddenly hit me, taking the bouncer's fist, which sent me sort of hurtling across Manhattan. When I landed, crumpled in a heap, I had this thought: "If all the world's a stage, why am I lying here in agony?"

There was no immediate answer. For there followed a prolonged interval. By chance, the producers of "The Low Life", the two owners of Studio 54, were subsequently called for tax evasion, and Studio 54 was closed down. With this sorry course of events, it was said that the former exotic habits, when confronted by the reality of life without fantasy, changed roles. They got jobs.

No shame in that. It is traditional for resting actors to work between shows. But when Studio 54 reopened last month and I received an invitation to the opening night, I was surprised. "It's awfully decent of them to apologize in this way," I thought. Alas, nothing more than a prelude to a man wishing to be part of events than his exclusion from them. "Leave this to me, darling," I announced, clutching the opening-night invitation as we made our way through the mob toward the dear old bouncers of Studio 54.

I had good reason to feel quietly confident. In the year or so since my last unfortunate visit, I had taken to going to a gym. There, for three nights every week, I worked out with a fanatical Romanian, who was also a

black belt in the arts of karate.

"Good evening, gentlemen," I said to the bouncers. One among their kind looked me up and down. "Something was wrong," I knew we should have come as pirates," I whispered, too late.

"Leave this one to me, my darling."

"No entry," ordered the bouncer, beaming malevolence.

"But..." Upon reflection, it was possibly unwise of me not to have made a preemptive strike. The wallop I received this time, however, was not quite as forceful as the last. With practice, he learns to roll with the punches. You must forgive me, though. Emboldened by my training at the gym, I felt a new man was beginning to emerge (though I knew little or nothing about him). It therefore seemed a matter of honour and necessity to hit the bouncer back.

What a role I was playing then! "Fearless," people's champion, brave, rocky, victor, king, gladiator, Hero, glory, glory... It was not to be. Several cops quickly stepped in between us, one of them offering a dose of reality in typical New York fashion: "You bust his nose. He bust your nose. I make an arrest. This is Duhb. Me? They couldn't pay me to go to such places. You? How should I know about you?"

True enough. But where does this get us? Perhaps as the good Pirandello says, nowhere. I only wish to say that if it is so that each of us is the author and actor of his dreams, some fantasies, like some fantasies, are easier to get into than others.

Bridge/Jeremy Flint

Beware boomerangs

"Don't pre-empt with a weak partner" is a sound rubber bridge maxim. Obviously, any penalty you concede will be in a poor cause. But a greater deterrent is that pre-emptive bids, designed to disrupt the opposition, all too frequently boomerang.

To select the best response to a pre-emptive bid requires judgment, vision, and a sound knowledge of the language of bidding. Imagine that your partner, at love all, has opened three hearts. What action would you recommend with these three hearts?

A 4K04 4K63 4J4C
0872 08 0A07
0J63 0A05 0K432
4K02 4A73 4AK

A. The worst bid is three no trumps. Of course, with a helpful lead and a benign distribution, you will some-

times succeed, but too infrequently. Four hearts is also over-enthusiastic. The only sensible call is No Bid. It is a simple matter of valuation.

B. It's amazing how many bridge players who have played the game all their lives played the game all their lives with a slam bid. Three no trumps, a sensible reconstruction of partner's hand will demonstrate that four hearts will be a good contract. Three no trumps will vary from poor to putrid.

C. This is more difficult. If your partner has the right cards, there might well be a slam. Normally a pre-emptive bid should not contain an outside ace, so Blackwood will be singularly unhelpful. The correct technique is to cue bid your lowest control, four clubs. Your partner should appreciate that you are interested in a slam but have no spade control. If he has a spade control, it is up to him to take the initiative.

To underline the points I have made, here is a typical hand on which your partner might have opened three hearts.

45
VKJ109654
0938
4J105

The competitive bidding which follows a pre-emptive bid often requires delicate judgment.

East-West game. Dealer South.

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VKJ109654
0938
4J105

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VKJ109654
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4J105

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VKJ109654
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4J105

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VKJ109654
0938
4J105

(i) Despite the vulnerability, the quality of the hands fully justifies the intervention.

(ii) Relying on his partner to choose between doubling and bidding six hearts.

(iii) Unwise. Without the 4Q, indefensible. Six spades must be a cheap insurance.

North followed a poor decision in the bidding with a lamentable display in the defence. Declarer ruffed the spade in dummy and returned to his hand with a trump.

When he continued with a diamond, North panicked, taking the trick with the 4A. Hoping that South had two hearts, he forced the dummy with the 4K. Declarer was able to cash the ace of trumps and dispose of his losing clubs on the 4K and the 4J.

North should have had no difficulty in forming a picture of West's hand. Surely the only hope of defeating the contract must lie in the club suit. If North ducks the 4A, declarer loses no diamond but cannot avoid the loss of two club tricks.

On the next hand, the protagonists were all players of world championship class.

France v USA — final of the 1980 World Olympiad. North-South game. Dealer East.

45
VKJ109654
0938
4J105

to four spades. Notice Peron's double of four clubs. He was subtly suggesting a penalty double without the risk of doubling and finding his partner trickless. If Lebel had had a defensive trick he would doubtless have doubled.

Peron overtook the 4K with the 4A and forced dummy with a second club.

Although Wolff suspected the bad trump break, he had to try to make the contract, so he cashed the two top trumps, confirming the bad news. Wolff could have gone one down by playing the 4K; instead he tried to take heart discards on dummy's diamonds. Peron was able to ruff the fourth diamond, cash the 4Q and wait for two heart tricks. Two down. 200 to France.

Open room
W. Soloway, N. Madi, E. Rubin, S. Chemla.

W N E S
Soloway Madi Rubin Chemla
58 Double 38 46
No No No No

Opening lead 4A

The bidding started in the same way, but Soloway's attempt to maintain the barrage misfired badly. Possibly five clubs is not a bid of which he is particularly proud. On the contrary, North's double showed excellent judgment. No doubt Madi reasoned that as South's bid was based on a major two-suit, his diamonds would be more valuable in defence than attack. Chemla had no difficulty in finding the diamond switch, so the French extracted a 500 penalty to add to the 200 they had earned in the closed room.

A swing of 12 IMPs to France.

Pope was not a bridge player, but how aptly he wrote:

Tis with our judgments as our watches, none Go just alike, yet each believes his own.

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No No No No

Opening lead 4A

The bidding started in the same way, but Soloway's attempt to maintain the barrage misfired badly. Possibly five clubs is not a bid of which he is particularly proud. On the contrary, North's double showed excellent judgment. No doubt Madi reasoned that as South's bid was based on a major two-suit, his diamonds would be more valuable in defence than attack. Chemla had no difficulty in finding the diamond switch, so the French extracted a 500 penalty to add to the 200 they had earned in the closed room.

A swing of 12 IMPs to France.

Pope was not a bridge player, but how aptly he wrote:

Tis with our judgments as our watches, none Go just alike, yet each believes his own.

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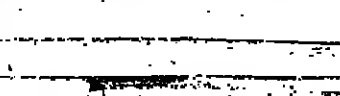
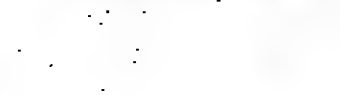
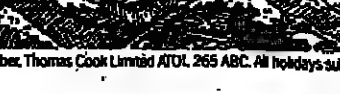
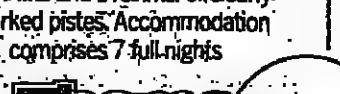
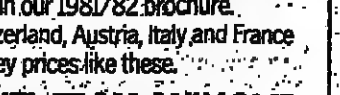
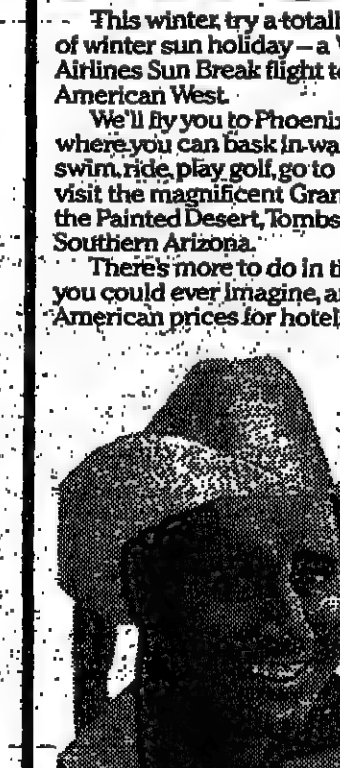
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*Ticket 21 days in advance. Minimum stay 7 days, maximum stay 180 days. Fares subject to change and Government approval.

Có-sponsored by Arizona Hotel and Motel Association.



Travel/edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Christmas away/John Carter

Seasonal packages

Spending Christmas in the Norwegian resort of Gjøvik was not the best of ideas, for all that the children enjoyed the deep snow and the reindeer sleigh rides. The hotel was first class, but we found it difficult to join in the jollifications, particularly after Santa Claus turned up and our youngsters discovered he did not speak English. Try convincing a tearful three-year-old that such a language barrier does not matter, especially when she sees the presents being distributed to luckier local children! When taking the family away for Christmas, make sure the traditions are what young children expect.

For most of the years since, I have been unable to spend Christmas abroad, although I did dash over to France with some colleagues for a couple of days in 1978. It was a sort of work outing, the idea being that we could eat and drink well (we did) and do some Christmas shopping (we did not, because the shops were closed and the street market deserted on account of some extra public holiday we had not expected).

If you find yourself on a "regular" holiday at Christmas, a package deal that spans the season, the tour company is certain to lay on some extra entertainment — shows, fancy dress contests, parties and the like. The hotel will also try to provide "traditional" fare, and I do know of one tour company that smuggles Christmas puddings out to its resorts in the absence of suitable Spanish substitutes.

The increasing use of video cassette recorders means also that the Queen's broadcast speech and other seasonal television offerings may be viewed around the Mediterranean, albeit two or three days late. A mixed blessing.

Although such attempts to provide the flavour of a traditional English Christmas are commendable, I suspect that many who go abroad at that time do so precisely so they may taste the flavour of a different celebration. This is surely the point of the "Christmas Intermzzo" holiday in Vienna which offers a three night stay from December 24 to 27. For £74 you get accommodation in the Regina, Graben or Royal hotel, a three day ticket on the public transport system, a Christmas Eve dinner, Christmas Day brunch, a visit to an opera and a trip through the Vienna Woods. Of course, you have to add on the cost of getting yourself out to Vienna and home again afterwards, but a travel agent would be able to help with such arrangements.

If he is unable to give you more information about the holiday itself, contact Krenleiner Hotels, Rooseveltplatz 15, A-1090, Vienna (tel. 42 76 81).

If there is sufficient snow (there was not last Christmas) British guests at the Ramada hotel in Jonkoping, southern Sweden, will be going for sleigh rides as part of their Christmas package deal. They will be tackling Christmas Smorgasbord spreads, getting to grips with glasses of "glogg" and meeting not only Santa Claus (does he speak English?) but Lucia, the Queen of Light. This particular deal, which costs £189 for a week, is offered by Tor Line, whose brochure should be on the travel agents' shelves.

There has always been a demand for Christmas holidays in Israel and a number of these are available, some based in Tel Aviv with opportunities to visit Jerusalem, Nazareth and Tiberias and others based in Jerusalem itself with side trips to Bethlehem and Hebron. The cost of a week in Tel Aviv is £255, in the Sunquest brochure, for example, with a week in Jerusalem offered for £284.

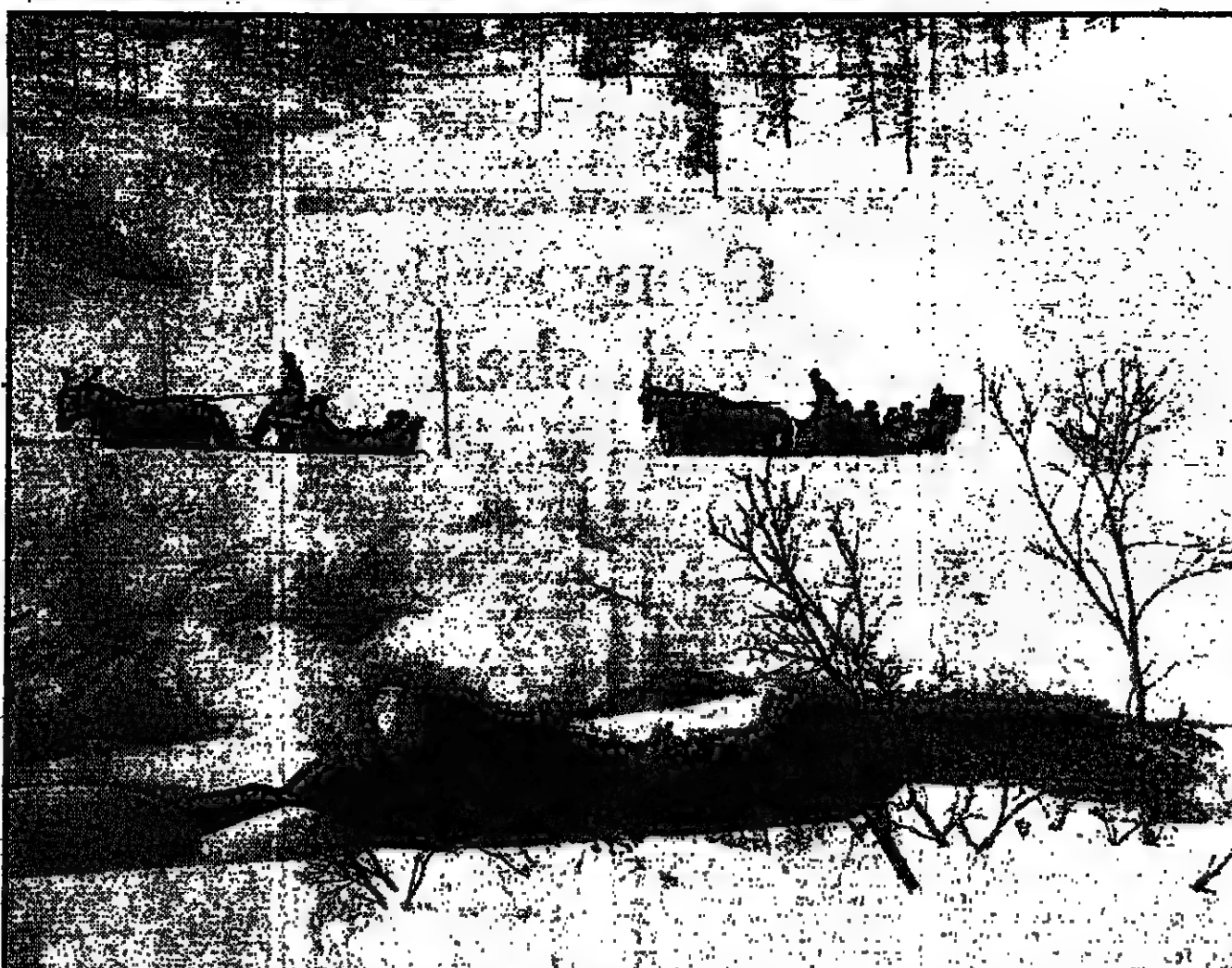
Sunquest also offers a holiday to Antalya in Turkey and this is also seasonally appropriate for it was thereabouts that the story of Santa Claus had its beginnings.

St Nicholas was Bishop of Myra (now Demre) in the fifth century and among his legends is that he hid his tomb — empty, for his bones were taken to Italy. A week's holiday can be had for £189, but as travel is on Fridays, extra days would have to be added to avoid travel on Christmas Day itself. A nine night holiday costs £211, for example.

All these apart there are very many holidays which will take you away for Christmas in Europe and it is worth seeking out special arrangements such as those offered by Global to Paris, to St Goarhausen in the German Rhineland, and to Ostend. Or, as I mentioned earlier, you could simply buy a holiday that covers the Christmas period and enjoy what extra events are grafted on by the tour company.

But what of those for whom there can be no substitute for Christmas in Britain, although they would get away from their own homes? The answer lies in one or other of the literally hundreds of special holidays being offered by individual hotels and hotel groups. The difficulty is that one cannot mention them all, thus offending the overlooked, but at the risk of causing such offence, a survey of what is being offered is worth attempting.

Some time ago the Best Westerns Group sent me an attractive booklet giving details of inns and country house hotels, and I note that many offer special Christmas



Sleigh bells, deep snow and fir trees: a Christmas view worth travelling for

arrangements as part of the company's "Country Breaks" programme. These range from inclusive house-party style holidays with full programmes of entertainment, down to normal hotel opening with special Christmas menus. Among hotels which offer the whole works are the Weston Manor, Oxford (a four-day break for £190) the Pengethly, Ross on Wye (£195), the Dalston Hotel, Carlisle (£116), and the White Hart Hotel at Lewes (£130). There are central reservation offices for Best Western Hotels at Interchange House, 25 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2NA (01-940 9766) and 5th Floor, Gordon Chambers, 50 Mitchell Street, Glasgow, G1 3NQ (041-204 1794).

Franchise Hotels have a deservedly high reputation for my own experiences are any yardstick, and many of them offer special Christmas arrangements. Their costs are on the high side, reflecting the quality offered by the Elms at Abberley (£240 for four nights) the Lygon Arms, Broadway (£312), the Castle at Taunton (£220) or the Chewton Glen at New Milton (£288). The Franchise Central Office is at Strand House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9EX (01-568 6841).

Trusthouse Forte's "High-time" programme offers the choice of a lively Christmas celebration, or peace and quiet, and the special brochure listing the hotels clear-

ly indicates what kind of Christmas each plans to provide. Four nights' celebration at the White Hart Royal Hotel in Moreton in Marsh for £170, at the Queen's Hotel, Cheltenham (£210), the George, Huntingdon (£185) or at the Blue Boar at Maldon (£180). Those who seek peace and quiet should find it at the Hurwood Inn, Fesslake (£160), The White Horse, Romsey (£170), The Talbot, Maldon (£160) or the Swan's Nest hotel, Stratford upon Avon (£180).

I notice from the brochure that there are no single room supplements and special rates are available for children. Those under five are accommodated free, whilst those over five and under 14 are charged half rate when sharing a room with their parents. FRP reservations offices are at Paramount House, 71/75 Uxbridge Road, London, W5 5SL (01-567 3444) and at Nelson House, Park Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 5AB (061-969 6111).

Embassy Hotels have a regular programme of winter weekend breaks in the "Hushaway" brochure, covering 50 hotels, and are offering special Christmas deals at three of them — the Lansdowne, Norwich, the Beaufort, Luton and the Peacock, Kewley. Prices for the four day Christmas packages range from £140. More about those from Embassy Hotels, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent,

Staffs, DE14 1BZ (0283-66587).

Eleven hotels in the Ladbroke group are offering special programmes over Christmas — at York, you may actually take part in their own production of "A Christmas Carol". Among the four day deals are those at the Abbey Park Hotel in York (£130), at the Balmer Lawn Hotel, Brockenhurst (£210), Savoy Hotel, Bournemouth (£215). The central reservations office is at P.O. Box 137, Watford, Herts, WD1 1DN (01-734 6000).

A new independent British hotel company, Savoy International, is presently offering a selection of mini-break holidays to London, where it has five properties. The cost of these includes rail travel to the capital and free travel on the central London underground system. What is particularly attractive about the holidays at Christmas, however, is that to four of the hotels — the Green Park, Mosely, Regency and Rubens — the regular prices are actually reduced by 25%.

Thus, a four night stay in a room with private bath or shower would cost £48.75 per person instead of the usual £65 if one were travelling from, say, Nottinghamshire or the West Midlands, Derby, Dorset, Lincolnshire, or the Isle of Wight. The central reservations office is Capital Breaks Ltd., Freepost London, SW7 2BR (01-581 1414).

In addition to these and other hotel groups, very many individual and independent hotels have special deals over the Christmas period. Many are looking for company over Christmas as well as the enjoyment of having everything done for them. He also strongly suggested I should advise on prompt reservation of such holidays. Bearing in mind all those who do book 12 months ahead, I certainly do so advise.

Air emergency/Dr Tony Smith

Flying doctors

Like most of my medical colleagues, my instinctive response is to lie low and say nothing when an aircraft steward asks for a doctor over the public address system. Often some most extraverted (and younger) doctor will step forward with a mixture of embarrassment and confidence in his own abilities. My caution — and it is caution shared by most regular medical travellers — is based on realism.

Faced with a sick, possibly unconscious stranger in a cramped aircraft seat, a doctor's first instinct is to check a few vital signs such as blood pressure, heart beat and the state of the lungs. Doctors do not, however, usually carry their medical bags as hand luggage. Without his stethoscope, sphygmomanometer and other basic tools a doctor's hands are tied. And without his emergency drugs — to relieve pain, treat difficulty in breathing, and restore blood pressure he can give little effective treatment.

What if the emergency is psychiatric? Acute mental disturbance rarely leads to violence, but rapid sedation is often the best emergency treatment for a disturbed patient. Again the appropriate drugs are essential.

Ships have to carry doctors



if they have more than 12 passengers. An aircraft may have 400 or more, often isolated over the Pole for several hours. So why cannot airlines carry medical bags, containing a few basic instruments, syringes, and drugs to be made available in an emergency to any doctor with "medical practitioner" on his or her passport?

Holiday discounts: There is no discount news this week because the summer holiday season has now finished. Our chart will be back as soon as there are winter sun and skiing discounts to report.

Wrong number: The correct telephone number for Tattler Park (mentioned in last week's article on locations used in the television series Brideshead Revisited) is Knutsford 3155.

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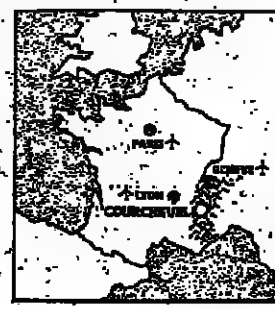
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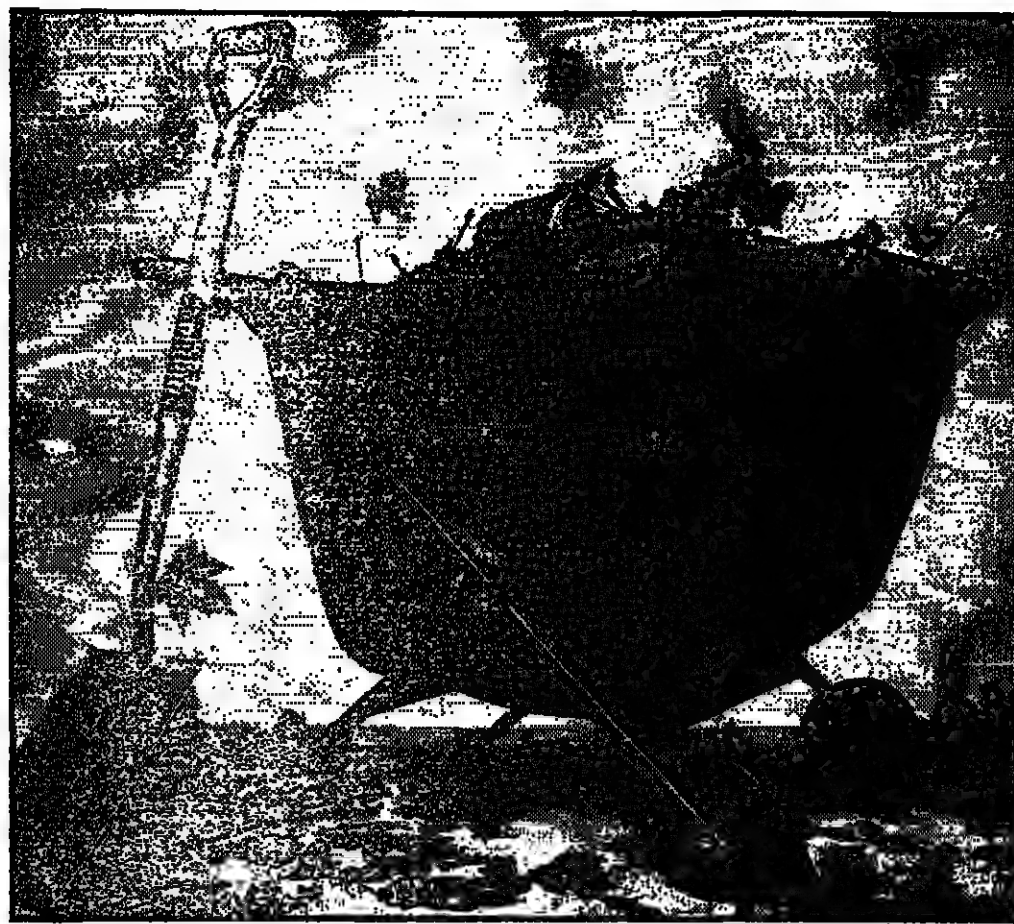
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A compost carry-cot

Mists and mellow fruitfulness are very fine, but there's an awful lot of stuff flying and lying around the garden, too. Leaves, fallen twigs, last grass cuttings, all have to be transported to compost heap or bonfire. For smaller gardens wheelbarrows are cumbersome and take a lot of storage space. So the Boscart, with its fold-up metal frame, is a good alternative. The bag,

made of woven polyethylene, that doesn't stay wet or rot in store, has a 4 cu ft capacity and lifts off the frame with two handles. The makers sell a Boscart (without frame) and handy garden kneeler too. The Boscart costs £26, including carriage, by mail order only from Boscart Products Ltd, Northumberland Works, Northumberland Road, Portsmouth, PO5 1DP.



Sheep lam Knit-Kit by Susie Lee

Illustrated knitting is alive and well and prospering all over the shops. People are turning up with sunsets and mountain ranges on their torsos at prices from £50-£90 in a mohair jersey. Obviously someone was going to see the potential for home knitters too especially those without the graph paper or courage to work out panoramas in coloured crosses for themselves.

So here is Susie Lee, once a model and with an eye for what looks well, in one of her own half dozen designs. Because mohair wool is very expensive it makes sense for knitting packs to come with exact quantities for units of smoke, chimney stacks or paths. Her Knit-Kits give exactly the right amounts of each colour and cost about £25 from branches of John Lewis and from Harrods in London. Her illustrated broadsheet can be sent on receipt of a large 50p and 14p stamp from: Susie Lee, 1 Richmond Street, Herne Bay, Kent CT16 5JU where you can also place post orders.

More modestly Twilley's have a couple of designs. In cotton yarn, at about £5.40 from the same shops — a seascape and a country scene. Perhaps a Twilley pack would serve as an introduction to people tackling this sort of thing for the first time.

Sheep do safely graze all over the knitted-up jerseys, woolly hats, waistcoats and scarves of Jan Horax's work on sale at stall 16 on Wednesdays and Saturdays in Covent Garden Market. She knits by hand, if that's the right way of describing knitting done on a domestic knitting machine. Long-sleeved sweaters are about £25, scarves £15, all in pure new wool. And very nice too.

Carve your casserole with pride

One stands entranced before the skill of glass engravers. That coordination of eye and hand, those cobwebby lines, that use of transparency and the refraction of light. The Sussex branch of the Guild of Glass Engravers is holding a selling exhibition at the Arun Art Centre, High Street, Arundel, Sussex, from October 26 November 7 daily from 9.30 am till 5.30 pm but they are resting on Sundays. The pleasure of looking can turn into the pleasure of commissioning, too, for here goblets can be engraved with

notable dates, names and loving messages to make truly personal presents. We all know that casseroles are necessary in daily life, but how much nicer to have an individual and unique piece for much the same price. You can mutter that man doesn't live by bread alone to justify the indulgence.

Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, is going to open Crafts Fair Eighty One at Chelsea Old Town Hall, Kings Road, London SW3 on Thursday, October 29. This is an excellent way to see what individual crafts-people have been up to in the last year and to admire their skills and inventiveness.

Just about all the usual things will be on show and on sale: pottery, jewelry, glass, patchwork, knitting, woodwork and furniture. Toys and fashion too at an admission

price of 80p, or 40p for children and pensioners. The fair lasts four days: from 2pm to 6pm on October 29 and then from 10am to 6pm on October 30, 31 and November 1 (Sunday).

In your opinion which is this year's most appealing charity Christmas card? To discover your views we are launching a competition with three £100 prizes for each of the readers choosing the best card within three price ranges: under 15p, between 15p and 25p and over 25p. The designs must be on sale this year and sold in aid of a registered charity.

The Times will also donate £1,000 to the charity whose card is judged the outright winner regardless of price. Rules and entry forms are on page 17.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

When the stew blurs over

When is a stew not a stew? When it is a casserole? Well, not really. The distinctions, in truth, are hopelessly blurred.

Both are made with meat and vegetables cooked in liquid and it is tempting to draw a line between recipes which are usually cooked on top of the stove and those traditionally consigned to the oven. Put plain-speaking stews on the back burner and casseroles in the oven. But Irish stew with its un-stirring layers of meat and potato is an oven dish if ever there was one.

Or it might be claimed that stew is good solid British fare, and casseroles are fancy foreign mutton parading as lamb. Not so though. To stew comes from the old French *estuver*, meaning to shut up or enclose, the very same word that gave us the fish ponds, or stews, of old England. And just to be difficult, casserole, based to be sure on the French *cassole*, has been English verbal currency for the best part of four centuries.

From the point of view of current English usage, a better distinction can be found in the presentation of these dishes than in their preparation. Which makes stews unpretentious family fare, and casseroles what they are called when anyone else is listening... except Irish stew of course.

Not that any of this matters overmuch when what is wanted is a good hot meal. Lancashire hot pot is typical

of the homely dishes that are simply delicious when well made and not at all nice when sloppily done. The natural sweetness of best end of neck of lamb cutlets will be spoiled if too much fat is left on them, or every scrap removed. So trim them to leave a narrow band of fat that will hold the chops in shape without making the dish too greasy. This is one of the few dishes in which lamb stock is an improvement.

Lancashire hot pot
Serves six to eight
1.35kg (3lb) best end of neck of lamb cutlets
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

450g (1lb) onions, peeled and sliced in rings
900g (2lb) potatoes, peeled and thickly sliced
600 to 900ml (1 to 1½ pints) good stock
30g (1oz) butter

Trim the cutlets of excess fat and leave them on the bone. The shape of a traditional hot pot dish is round and straight sided so a large soufflé dish or casserole will do very well.

Season the cutlets and arrange them standing round the edge of the dish with bones towards the outside and the meatiest ends down. Tuck the sliced onions and potatoes in layers between the cutlets, seasoning each layer, and ending with a good layer of potato on top. Pour in the

stock to within 1.75cm (¾ inch) of the top layer of potato and dot the top of the dish with butter.

Cover and bake the hot pot in a preheated slow oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for 3 hours. To brown the top, remove the cover, raise the oven heat to moderately hot (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) and bake for a further 30 minutes.

In the days when oysters were the food of the poor, a few, say six, would be included in hot pot. Now they are a very optional refinement.

Carbonade of beef, a fairly liquid dish of beef cooked slowly in beer, is popular in the Low Countries. I have been making the simplest possible version for years and prefer mine to more complicated variations which may well be more authentic. Some recipes call for Guinness which, of course, makes a

beautifully dark gravy, but you can use any beer from lager to stout. Brown ale has my vote.

Carbonade of beef
Serves six to eight
1.35kg (3 lb) braising steak
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 tablespoons olive oil
30 g (1 oz) butter
680 g (1½ lb) onions, peeled and thinly sliced
1 tablespoon plain flour
600 ml (1 pint) brown ale

Cut the steak into large cubes and season it generously with salt and pepper. Heat the oil in a heavy fireproof casserole and brown the meat quickly on all sides. Lift out the beef and add the butter to the casserole. Lower the heat and brown the onions evenly without allowing them to burn. Sprinkle them with the flour and mix well.

Return the meat to the casserole and add the beer. Bring to the boil on top of the stove then cover tightly and cook in a preheated slow oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for 3 hours, or until the meat is very tender.

Adjust the seasoning and serve the carbonade piping hot with plenty of fluffy mashed potato or with ribbons of pasta. This dish tastes even better if it is cooled and reheated, and cooling makes it easier to remove any surplus fat from the gravy. It freezes well too.



Shoparound

by Diana Pollock
Beryl Downing is away

Going well with shell

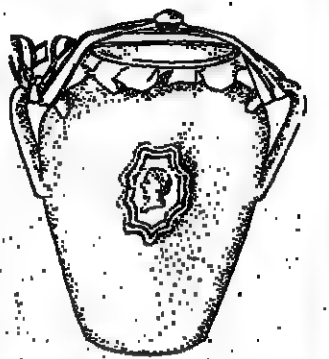
Rilla and Cox have the fastest moving snails in the West. The large, edible kind, cooked and sealed with garlic butter, 20p each, fairly fly out of their newly opened delicatessen at 8 West Smithfield, London EC1 (01-235 7545). Half dozens, boxed with napkin (and bottle chilled wine extra) at £1.20 are going to shops and offices round St Bartholomew's Hospital as well as the newspapers in Farringdon and Gray's Inn Lane.

Two enterprising ladies, Shirley Rilla and Jill Cox, met while working for Jackson's of Piccadilly before it closed its doors. Where better to learn about fine foods for educated palates? Their most successful lunch boxes are smoked salmon sandwiches in brown bread with a bottle of chilled white wine. At the other end of the appreciative taste buds scale are the hummers, the meat porters in the market, who come in at 8.30 am for a wedge of pie and back at 1 pm for a large cake and a box of chocs for the missus. Not your run of the telly-ad stuff either, they want handmade chocolates, please miss.

Within a given radius packed lunches are delivered by scooter at short notice —

hand-raised game pies, home made pâtés, delectable cheeses. They also stock first pressing Tuscan oil, garlic purées and small terracotta amphorae of Tuscan honey.

Their Islington Shop serves all those appreciative people now living in Regency squares off Upper Street and many of their clients are devotees who first came to them through a mailing of postable Christmas goodies last year. This year's version will soon be ready and will give customers time to have messages inscribed on pies, cakes and pastries. Write to 8 Theberton St, London, N1.



Amphora of honey costs £10.50



Rilla and Cox — Success in the pursuit of rare meals

Journalists' traditionally keep going on strong black coffee and nervous tension, so what better place to try out Toshiba's latest machine than this office? There are other filter coffee makers on the market but this is the first I've met with a bean grinder, too. A small container, over the beans, grinds them and hot water from the reservoir drips through to filter into the toughened-glass jug beneath. One cup measure of water to one small measure of beans is the quantity. Then set the dial to 1, 2 or 3 for mild, medium or strong coffee.

We liked the after-dinner strength of number 3 but did find there was one cup less than was measured. Perhaps this is because some water remains soaked up in the coffee grounds. The lid is a grinder cannot be removed while the machine is switched



Toshiba Filtermill



Photograph by Eric Howard

A world in a teapot

Although the manufacturer of Bluebird's Big Yellow Teapot says it is suitable for children between two and seven years old it is also irresistible to most grown-ups. Obviously Torquil Norman, the firm's owner, knows about children, plays with his own and has thought of every possible thing to pack into a 14-inch high teapot. Front and back doors let down like drawbridges to show two rooms. There's a drive-in garage under the handle. The lid lifts up and has an observation platform beneath with four pegs so the teapot family can view the world without

tumbling. People posted down the spout end up in the bedroom.

The family is regulation 1980s Pa, Ma and one child of each kind. Their dog is called Sugarlump — what else? Furniture includes teacup chairs, table, dog basket, bed and teacup car. Made of tough polypropylene, it should survive family life for a long time. All surfaces are properly rounded off, so there is no danger of cutting edges.

The Teapot will cost about £19.50 from larger branches of British Home Stores, Fine Fare and Woolworth as well as Boots Department Stores.

Leather olé

If you want a grand venue to launch a new shop in London what grander than the Guildhall in London? Loewe-Hermans, the Spanish leather people, put on their show for the benefit of Dr Barnardo's, complete with royal patron, Princess Margaret. The clothes, all made of Spanish leather-ol (as in the Raggle Tangle Gipsies) were superb. Disdainful girls and arrogant young men paraded on the catwalk to some nearly Spanish music.

Alas, why must the sound people assume they are still in a disco and put up the volume so the music distorts as it bounces back off gothic tracery, Gog and Magog and the marble features of national heroes like Wellington and Nelson? After stuffing my ears with Kleenex it was much better, and it would be churlish to give anything but praise for Loewe's marvelous craftsmanship.

They specialize in fine leather of all sorts, coats, suits, jackets, suede trousers, hand-made shoes, luggage. They also make exquisite hand-sewn hand bags and



Loewe golden suede bag and gloves and has perfect detailing. It costs £175 and the gloves are £26.

The shop opens on November 2 at 47/49 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London, SW1, with late night shopping on Wednesdays.

Gardening/Roy Hay

The importance of the borderline

When garden historians record the changes in our gardens from the end of the First World War to the present day they will doubtless conclude that most of them have been brought about by the high cost and scarcity of trained gardeners and, over the past 10 or 15 years, the crippling cost of fuel for greenhouses.

Smaller gardens, owner maintained, of course, have called for changed techniques and garden fashions. I am thinking mainly of the changes that concern our herbaceous borders. You may say that in a garden where the work is done by the owner, labour costs are irrelevant — but even here the same changes have in many cases made life easier and reduced the work with herbaceous plants.

Let us go back to the larger garden with a herbaceous border some 20 to 30 yards long or even more and say four or five yards wide. It was in many gardens sited against a wall or hedge because the old idea — still perpetuated in some modern books — was that you must have a background or a herbaceous border. Even in small gardens we still see these borders set right up to a wall, hedge or fence.

There are several reasons why this is not a good idea. First, unless a good two foot wide path has been left behind the border, it is difficult to get at the taller plants, to

stake, tie and dead head them. Also plants growing in a border against a wall or hedge tend to become "drawn" or lanky because they are reaching for the light.

So many of them need staking which would be perfectly able to stand up without support if they were growing in a free standing bed well away from the wall or hedge. Staking and tying plants of any kind is something that one learns slowly. Any fool can push in a cane or two, grab the stems and tie them in a bunch to the canes. Sadly most jobbing gardeners I have seen at work do just this.

As I have said before we mourn the disappearance of the pea sticks — even the worst of jobbing gardeners could make some kind of a job with pea sticks around herbaceous plants. And even if he made a pig's ear of the job one could usually spend half an hour after he had gone to set Mr Heath Robinson's efforts to rights.

So now the lessons we have learned are to keep herbaceous borders well away from walls or hedges or to make free standing beds and in both cases to go for as many plants as we can find that require little or no support.

Take first the situation where we have a wall, fence or hedge. At least one could possibly move the border forward say three feet — it is

usually set into a lawn so three feet of turf has to be sacrificed. Obviously one does not move such a border forward three feet in one season but it can be done gradually over a couple of years. Thus there is room to work behind the border and there is space to plant a shrub or climber against the wall to give extra pleasure.

If one is starting from scratch I would forget about a herbaceous border against a wall or fence. I would rather make a border say three feet wide at its base, plant some shrubs — climbing roses, honeysuckles, clematis, pyracantha or many more — and in front of these herbs plant lavender or rosemary, dwarf roses, *Amaryllis belladonna* or a dozen more low growing perennials that need no support. Then if I wanted to grow a goodly range of hardy herbaceous flowers, I would make some irregularly shaped beds, presumably in the lawn, well away from walls, hedges or trees.

In such beds one can have great fun choosing perennials to flower from April to October — a conifer or two, green or gold, some heathers — again green or gold to flower from the end of the year to early summer on alkaline soils, or almost all the year round on acid soils. There are other dwarf shrubs — skimmias, the lavender blue *Hebe* (*Veronica*) *hebe*, *Genista lydia* and many more that broaden the inter-

est of these beds or borders. Breeding Gardens of Dids, Norfolk, issue a splendid catalogue full of colour illustrations of herbaceous, alpine and other plants and some plants for planting a border free standing bed, also beds of conifers and heathers.

With large existing herbaceous borders that are becoming "burdensome" as regards labour, the answer is obviously to reduce drastically the number of plants that need staking and tying, dead heading and cutting down in the autumn. In their place plant low growing ground covering plants such as heathers, bergias, hypericums, lamiums, sedums and stachys. Above these plant low shrubs — skimmias, again, dwarf azaleas on acid soils, flowering currants, shrubby potatillas, hydrangeas and brooms. Thus the mixed border has much to commend it.

Indeed it is much acclaimed by our continental neighbours, even the French, as their gardening journals are using the English term "mixed borders" quite happily.

Given thought, the time to devote to the study of catalogues, the determination to remove time-wasting plants (or those that are not really very attractive but they have been there) over a year or so one can really transform a garden.

Rolls-Royce denies shelving aero engine

By Peter Hill,
Industrial Editor

Rolls-Royce, the state-owned aero engine builder, and its three Japanese partners, have delayed the market launch of a new jet engine because of lack of orders.

The company, however, vigorously denied reports from Tokyo that it had shelved development plans for a year. The joint venture company was established in April last year to build the RJ-500 engine, which is designed to power twin-engine 150-seater airliners. The project involves spending \$430m (£240m).

A spokesman for Rolls-Royce said last night that at a meeting in Tokyo earlier this week the participants had agreed on the need for a new engine for the expected 150-seater airliner. The companies had agreed that the development programme was moving ahead satisfactorily and testing of the first demonstrator engine would take place at Bristol in February and the second in Japan the following month.

But the company acknowledged that aircraft manufacturers had slowed down their development programmes for the construction of the new aircraft and the engine launch had been put back. Industry experts had expected that first orders would have been placed by the end of this year.

Observers might believe that it will be 1986-87 before the first 150-seaters appear rather than 1984-85. The three Japanese companies involved in the joint venture are Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries, Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

The two Rolls-Royce engines, which will power the new Boeing 757 airliner on its maiden flight in February, were on their way yesterday from Chicago to Seattle. The RJ-500 engines have a thrust of 37,400lb and have been chosen to power 101 of the new fuel-efficient airliners on order or option for five airlines.

The value of the exports to Britain's exports will be £400m.

FT index down, loan rates up

16% looms as banks face decision week

By John Whitmore

Money market dealers dispersed for the weekend speculating that next week may well prove critical in determining whether the banks will have to move their base rates back up to 16 per cent.

Rates continued to move higher yesterday. The three-month interbank rate moved up to 16.16, almost 1 per cent above last Friday's level. At the weekly Treasury Bill tender, the average rate of discount rose from 15.34 to 15.95 per cent.

At the very short end of the market, however, rates remained just below 16 per cent, which means the banks can probably sustain their base rates at 15 1/2 per cent—an effective lending rate to blue-chip customers of about 16 1/2 per cent.

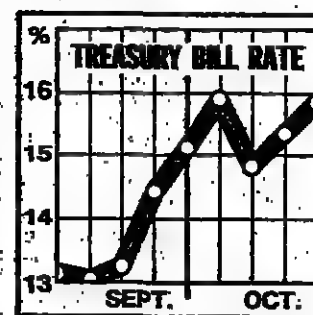
Just how long ultra-short term rates will be held at present levels is questionable. These rates are nominally dictated by the market rather than the authorities. But in practice discount houses tend to offer bills to the authorities, when faced by a cash shortage, at rates that they feel will fall roughly into line with official thinking.

The key issue becomes that of how the authorities choose to change the market-dictated rates.

The official approach appears to be that short-term rates will be allowed to move into line with short-term rates once it is shown that the movement in period rates is more than a short-term fluctuation and seems likely to be sustained.

The most difficult problem facing the authorities may be the control of a new increase in interest rates. The tendency has been for upward movements to go in large steps.

The situation might well have been easier to handle had the clearing banks not decided to cut their base rates to 15 1/2 per cent so soon after raising them from 14 to 16 per cent.



David Steel: Takeover in line with Scottish tradition



David Steel: Takeover in line with Scottish tradition

Steel backs Hongkong bid for Royal Bank

By Ronald Pullen

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, has given his backing to Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp's bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland.

In Edinburgh last night, Mr Steel said he would not dream of commenting on the financial aspects of the bid, but that there should be no doubt here in the capital that for the Royal Bank of Scotland to become part of the Hongkong Shanghai Group would be wholly in line with best Scottish mercantile international tradition.

The Liberal leader said he was against the rival bid from Standard Chartered because the Royal Bank of Scotland would then become simply a branch of a London bank. The Hongkong bid was different because it was a Scottish foundation in the Far East, and Edinburgh could become the Group's European banking centre.

This is the argument the Hongkong directors have used in support of their takeover. It has made little impression on the Royal Bank board (who support the Standard Chartered approach), Scottish Nationalist MPs, or the Bank of England.

Both bids are currently being investigated by the Monopolies Commission. Royal Bank of Scotland shares rose another 8p to 159p yesterday.

Bank of England opposition to the Hongkong bid, both because of the implications for other foreign bank takeovers and for its control over the banking system, has been an important factor in the Monopolies Commission's thinking.

Meanwhile, Standard Chartered's terms have a slight edge over those of Hongkong Bank, whose all-share offer has been hit by the fall in the Hongkong stock market.

On to three million out of work

Job losses mounting

By Baron Phillips

A further 4,677 jobs were lost this week making the spectre of three million unemployed a harsh reality. Almost all the redundancies had been expected for some time; only one of the locations was a surprise.

Bearing the brunt of this week's figures, and reflecting Britain's spiralling recession, was Hoover, the old established domestic appliance group. On Thursday 2,000 employees heard they were to lose their jobs as the company wielded the axe in an attempt to cut costs.

In Peterborough, the Perkins Diesel Engine Company announced that 700 of its 6,000 workforce had opted for voluntary redundancy. What the company originally offered the scheme its aim was to slim the staff by only 300 and it admits it was surprised by the response.

Only last week British Airways said that 8,000 employees had taken the opportunity to leave under its voluntary redundancy scheme, which aims to cut staff by 9,000. But on Wednesday Mr Roy Whist, BA's deputy chairman and chief

executive, said that a further 422 jobs would have to go. Over the past two years, it is claimed, almost 4,000 jobs have been lost in Northampton's shoe industry. This week the number was swollen by 400 as the British Shoe Corporation announced further redundancies.

Hard-pressed British Aluminium, which has witnessed a 30 per cent slump in demand, is laying off 255 of its workforce in Redditch and Warrington. After stating a sit-in at the Staffa Products factory in Leyton, East London, 300 workers heard this week that they would be losing their jobs. The company, which employs nearly 400 on the site, intends shifting production to its Plymouth factory.

In Colchester 300 staff are to be laid off by Paxmans Diesel, which axed 200 jobs earlier this year, taking the overall reduction to nearly a third. Looking much further ahead, the Central Electricity Generating Board said that the Keadby power station near Scunthorpe, Humberside, would close in 1983 with the loss of 300 jobs.

The only glimmer of light to come from an otherwise gloomy week is that the beleaguered Ronson Lighter factory on the Isle of Wight is to be reopened, creating 100 new jobs, according to Mr Jeffrey Hart, the new president of Ronson UK.

So far this month about 20,000 workers are faced with the prospect of joining the dole queue, either immediately or at some time in the future. Thursday's announcement by Hoover typifies the situation facing many companies in Britain—a desperate need to reduce the workforce and to cut the labour content of the factory price of goods. In two years Hoover's workforce has tumbled from 11,000 to 5,800.

Hoover's workforce, many of whom have been employed by the company for 25 years or more, have been expecting bad news since August. But few of them believed that it would be the Perivale, West London, factory which would bear the brunt of the redundancy and rationalization programme. Union officials claimed that Perivale was the most efficient of the group's three main operating plants.

Telefunken wins new bank aid

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Oct 23

AEG-Telefunken, West Germany's second largest electrical group, has won the continued support of its bankers in its attempt to keep clear of insolvency.

After a meeting today in Frankfurt with its 24-strong banking consortium, the company announced that the banks intend to provide it with further substantial support. Although precise details remain to be worked out, AEG-Telefunken disclosed that funds will be provided until the end of 1983 and will include maintaining credits already extended to the group and support for its interest payments.

At today's meeting Herr Heinz Diers, AEG-Telefunken's chief executive, gave details of the company's programme to put its own house in order and the negotiations now under way to reach cooperation agreements.

These talks, which centre on plans to establish a telecommunications venture with Robert Bosch and possibly Mannesmann, are likely to be concluded soon.

The banks' decision to stand by the troubled group should bring a sigh of relief from the West German Government in Bonn. AEG-Telefunken is a leading employer and a withdrawal of financial support at this stage could have added considerably to West Germany's rapidly increasing unemployment.

The AEG group's "house bank", the Dresdner Bank, has been especially hard hit by the downturn in the economy. Bosch and possibly Mannesmann will lead progressively to the involvement of the more profitable Deutsche Bank in AEG-Telefunken's affairs.

AEG-Telefunken disclosed that incoming orders rose by 5 per cent to DM10,800m (£255m) in the first nine months of this year.

Design approved for first PWR reactor

By Clive Cookson

The planning of Britain's first pressurized water reactor (PWR) took an important step forward yesterday when the Central Electricity Generating Board approved the design of the nuclear power station to be built at Sizewell, Suffolk.

Now that the CEGB has accepted the basic "reference design" for the controversial reactor, the National Nuclear Corporation can prepare detailed reports on its cost and safety. They will be put to a public inquiry in Suffolk, probably next year.

A government-sponsored task force under Dr Walter Marshall, chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, worked out the reference design for the NNC—the industrial consortium responsible for designing and building Britain's nuclear power stations.

The design is based on the Standardized Nuclear Unit Power Plant System, known as SNUPPS, which Westinghouse developed in the United States. The first SNUPPS PWR is nearing completion at Callaway, Missouri.

Dr Marshall's task force has adjusted the American design as little as possible to conform to British safety standards. Anti-nuclear groups such as the Friends of the Earth are already asking the CEGB to be sacrificed to cut costs.

The NNC hopes to make an "indicative cost estimate" for the Sizewell PWR within two months. In a statement yesterday its customer, the CEGB, said: "The design has not yet been sufficiently worked out to permit a detailed estimate of the cost of the power plant."

The board continues to expect that on the basis of the work done so far the capital cost will be cheaper than an advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) of comparable capacity, while meeting the same safety standards. The cost is likely to be somewhere in the region of £1,000m.

The Government intends to persevere with the construction of Sizewell, which is a safety design, in parallel with the new PWR programme. The current target is to order one new nuclear power station a year over the next decade.

Chemicals survey points to crisis ahead for industry

By David Hewson

Britain's chemicals industry has entered a critical phase in which there is a risk, for the first time in more than 20 years, that sizable companies may go bankrupt according to a new report on the industry.

The survey, by Jordans, the financial analysts, states: "ICI, which produces around 35 per cent of Britain's chemical output, may have been at break even for two quarters only, but its profits are still running at less than half their peak rate and other leading chemical companies, such as BP Chemical and Fisons, are experiencing financial problems of the utmost severity."

The industry faces difficulties on several fronts, the survey says. Substitution of conventional materials by chemicals is proceeding at a slower rate, and has been reversed in some instances. The industry is also suffering from the high cost of energy and the oil-based raw materials it uses. In the past

three years, the industry's margins have been squeezed faster than those of any other industry group.

Competition from low cost areas, the USA, Eastern Europe and the Middle East will intensify and the trend for the sophisticated Western chemical manufacturers to move from the large bulk chemicals to smaller volume specialties, chemicals is only likely to result in excessive competition in the specialist fields.

The likely result is that the industry will produce below average returns on capital in the future.

At the same time, it will face large extra cheap capacity coming on stream in Eastern Europe and the Arab world, continued cheap competition from America, and the tendency for specialist chemicals to become small volume commodity chemicals.

The British Chemical Industry, Jordans & Sons (Surveys).

FINANCE CHIEF QUITS VW

Volkswagen said yesterday that it had agreed to a request by Professor Friedrich Thome, its director of finance, to resign ahead of the termination of his contract.

One senior executive at Volkswagen's headquarters in Wolfsburg said that Professor Thome had been an excellent director of finance and it would be wrong to link his resignation entirely to the present slump in profitability at Volkswagen.

Professor Thome, aged 61, had come in for considerable criticism as a result of the losses incurred by Volkswagen's computer and typewriter making subsidiary.

Professor Thome is to be succeeded for the time being by Dr Peter Erck, a member of the VW managing board.

For the past few months Professor Thome had been acting as the group's chief executive while Herr Toni Schmücker, the managing board chairman, has been recovering from a heart attack.

Peugeot group fights back despite losses at Talbot

By Our Financial Staff

Peugeot, the French motor group, expects a second half improvement, which will mean a slight reduction in its losses last year of 1,500m francs (£190m).

This is despite losses at Talbot UK, its British car division, which increased from £19.6m to £41m in the first half of this year.

For the whole of last year, Talbot incurred a loss of £67.5m.

Recovery efforts have started to have some effect, and despite a drop in sales the car division made a small operating profit in the second quarter.

Sales and production of cars in the first half dropped by 19.8 and 15 per cent respectively.

Losses in the group's Citroën car side were cut from £137m to £120m in the first half. Losses for the whole of last year were £144.3m. In the other main car operating subsidiary, Peugeot, there were losses of

FF874m against a profit in the same period last year of FF290m before Talbot's loss of FF417m.

The Peugeot company has had to set aside FF1,000m to cover the withdrawal from its joint venture with Fiat in Argentina.

Meanwhile, reports from Germany suggest that Volkswagen should break even in 1981 after making a DM321m (£80m) profit last year. The group has been hard hit by lower sales in Brazil and the United States as well as losses in its typewriter and computer subsidiary.

The plight of the European car industry is not as serious as that of the United States, where General Motors has reported a \$468m (£250m) third quarter loss.

In the United States, speculation is mounting that Chrysler, whose loans are already being guaranteed by the government, will have to borrow the \$300m still available under the scheme.

Stock Markets

FT Index 461.9 down 5.4
FT 100 60.39 down 0.05
FT All Share Index
281.10 down 3.01
Bargains 16.174

Sterling

\$ 1.8215 up 55 points
Index \$7.9 up 0.1
New York: \$1.8205

Dollar

DM 109.3 down 0.5
DM 128.75 down 65 pts
Frankfurt: 109.30

Gold

\$ 430.50 down \$1.50
New York: \$431.50

Money

3 month sterling 164.16
3 month Euro \$ 164.16
6 month Euro \$ 164.16

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

ANZ Group 8p to 22p
Atlantic Recs 20p to 26p
Bath & Portland 2p to 4p
BS 6p to 28p
KCA Int 15p to 16p
Lasso 15p to 48p
Martin RP 15p to 27p
Mettoy 1p to 13p
Mining Supplies 4p to 10p
Plaxtons 3p to 11p
Ryl Bank Scotland 8p to 15p
Shell 4p to 35p

Falls

Oliver Discount 3p to 2p
Hanson Trust 1p to 2p
Horizon Travel 12p to 21p
Inchcape 12p to 25p
Killinghall 35p to 48p
Lancaster Univ 22p to 41p
Moorco 15p to 28p
Smith Ind 12p to 37p
Standard Tel 12p to 37p
Thorn EMI 15p to 42p
Utd Scientific 15p to 26p
Western Areas 15p to 26p

US money supply falls

The United States basic money supply M1 fell to a seasonally adjusted average of \$433,400m in the week ended October 14 from \$434,900m the previous week. It was announced yesterday. M1-A fell to an average of \$361,700m from \$362,300m a week earlier.

Price increases pushed the American inflation rate to 14.8 during September. This was the third month the rate has been in double figures.

Paribas inquiry demanded

M Georges Marchais, the French Communist Party leader, called in Paris yesterday for a parliamentary commission to investigate the successful bid by a Swiss company for control of the French bank Paribas.

The bid, which means the subsidiary will escape the French Government nationalization of banks, led to the resignation of the Paribas chairman, Societe Generale, one of France's big three nationalized banks, said yesterday it would cut its 14.5 per cent basic lending rate by 0.5 per cent.

IML Air Services is to set up a network next month to carry passengers between principal British business centres including London, Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow.

Libya cuts oil price

Libya, whose oil output is severely depressed because of a lack of demand, has proposed a \$2 a barrel discount, lowering its average price to \$38.

This is still well above the price for Nigerian oil, which it competes. Nigeria, whose sales are also depressed, has just given a discount of \$1.50, bringing its price to \$34.50.

Oil company officials in New York said yesterday that they were not impressed by the Libya offer, particularly in view of Nigeria's price. Both discounts are thought to have been given in the light of next week's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting, which may lower the benchmark price from \$36 to \$34 a barrel.

Sony, the Japanese company, is about to start selling a digital disc, which will play for an hour each side. The disc, which uses a laser system instead of a pick-up and costs about \$13 (£7), needs a special turntable costing up to \$870 (£478).

CBI spells out dangers

British withdrawal from the European Economic Community would threaten many hundreds of thousands of jobs because of the loss of trade, according to a Confederation of British Industry briefing paper for its national conference at Eastbourne next month.

The paper claims 2.5 million British manufacturing jobs depend on trade with the EEC. Exports have risen from £1,800m when Britain joined to £20,000m and there is now a

BUSINESS BRIEFING



One of British Rail's cross-channel hovercraft.

New-look service starts

The new cross-channel Hovercraft operation, formed by a merger of British Rail's Seaspeed and Sweden's Hovell, starts operating tomorrow with services between Dover, Calais, and Boulogne. Approving British Rail's half share in the new company, Mr David Howell, Secretary for Transport, said in a Commons written reply yesterday: "It is not the Railways Board's intention to exercise direct control, or to provide further finance."

West German exports boom

West Germany's visible exports increased by 22 per cent last month and were 17 per cent higher than in September 1980, according to official figures yesterday. Imports rose 10 per cent in the same month and were 11 per cent higher than in September 1980.

The visible trade account showed a surplus of DM3,500m (£825m) against a deficit of DM1,000m (£23.6m) in August. The current account balance of payments fell to DM2,200m from DM6,400m.

Managers criticized

Senior British managers came under fire yesterday in two speeches at a personnel management conference.

Mr Jack Jones, former leader of the Transport and General Workers Union, said staff and manual workers in industry should receive equal treatment and to eliminate differences would be to create a better atmosphere in industrial relations. Industry was carrying too many non-performers.

Mr Alastair Mant, a business consultant and author who was also speaking at the Institute of Personnel Management conference in Harrogate, said that 25 per cent of chief executives of large British companies were "duffs".

Gold market seat to cost £55,000

Companies or partnerships wishing to become trading members of the London Gold Futures Market, due to open in spring, will have to pay £55,000 for a seat and have net tangible assets of £500,000. Membership will be limited to 38 traders.

Despite the controversy which has surrounded the decision, the market contract for 400 ounces of gold will be in sterling. The minimum price fluctuation will be 5p.

Non-floor memberships will be offered for £10,000. They will need net assets of £250,000. No trading of floor memberships will be allowed for the first three years.

Miners at the Longannet complex, Fife, have produced a million tonnes of coal in the past six months. Their three tonnes per manshift is the highest in Scotland.

HAWTIN LIMITED INTERIM STATEMENT

Unaudited results for the six months ended 31 July, 1981

	1981 £'000	1980 £'000	Year, audited to 31 January 1981 £'000
Turnover	4,964	6,081	11,142
Trading (Loss) Profit	(37)	434	586
Interest Payable	(85)	(205)	(317)
(Loss) Profit before Taxation	(122)	229	269
Extraordinary Items	(235)		(210)
(Loss) Earnings per share	(0.40p)	0.44p	0.32p

EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS for the six months ended 31 July 1981 are the estimated costs of running down the manufacturing operations for polythene film and carrier bags and take no account of taxation relief which will be available but the utilisation of which is dependent upon profits in other group companies.

The subsidiaries engaged in the Group's principal trading activity of manufacturing and supplying industrial protective clothing and safety appliances shared the improved conditions existing in the protective clothing trade where irreducible operating costs relative to turnover have reduced profitability accordingly.

In the circumstances any former level of earnings was hardly to be expected but it was certainly not anticipated that losses from unrelated activities would adversely affect the results to the extent disclosed by the interim figures. These were incurred in the main by one subsidiary which had hitherto operated satisfactorily and where additional capital equipment had comparatively recently been installed to cope with a growing demand for certain types of plastic products.

Towards the end of last year some difficulty with this business, relating to the imbalance of processed materials to finished products, had been encountered but appeared to have been overcome through suitable corrections to meet the then market conditions. Unfortunately, these changed with little warning, in consequence of which sales of processed material fell steeply creating conditions whereby it became impossible to redress the imbalance.

Any decision to interrupt a production flow where product profitability is so largely dependent upon the degree of continuous processing achieved is indeed onerous for extension programmes do not readily lend themselves to part-time operation. It is mostly all or nothing. Since conversion facilities existed adequate for our sales of finished products it was sought to maximise these in every way feasible and for the time being let the processing plant run within practical limitations in anticipation of being able to utilise the surplus. Regrettably in spite of tireless effort this resulted in an accumulation of processed material far beyond the capacity of the converters even though running for periods involving disproportionate labour costs. The position was aggravated by a still further decline in material demand.

It soon became evident that attempts to maintain output at whatever levels would incur unsupportable trading losses and it was therefore decided to close down forthwith the main production sections, retaining only such residual items of equipment as the plastic printing facility and skeletal services. The closure of the main sections was deferred only long enough to ascertain the possibility of an outright sale of the business as a going concern. This however was not effected and in consequence there has been little alleviation of losses from this source.

Fortunately, the profits from our other diverse activities compensated to some extent for this misfortune of the plastic enterprise, and they are continuing to trade profitably. The prospects of our main business as suppliers of protective clothing and equipment of course depend very largely on the state of the country's manufacturing industries.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Margaret Drummond's home was wrecked by fire last week. Here she draws some lessons from the kind of disaster that could happen to anyone.

How I learnt about home insurance the hard way...

Most people find out what they are worth only when it is too late — when they die, are burgled, or, as happened to me last week, their homes burn down.

The police called me at work. There had been a fire. No one was hurt. My three-year-old daughter, who I later emerged had started the blaze by knocking over an electric fire, escaped from her burning playroom. But the damage to the house was horrific.

The whole of the back of it, including the kitchen, was gutted. There was smoke damage in another dozen rooms. The house was uninhabitable — no water, light or heating. The children were wandering around covered in soot, looking like pandas. The whole place was a decorative — or more pertinently, an undecorative, write off.

Fortunately, the insurance policies were in a safe in the study — otherwise, I would not even have known which companies were insured with. Rule one for householders is keep some notes of your insurance companies, and perhaps the roll number of your mortgage in your diary, your cheque book or something you carry around with you. Otherwise you could spend the best part of the day trying to find out whom to telephone and moan to.

When disaster strikes, what should the householder do? First take whatever steps are necessary to make the place safe and to prevent further damage. Nail up windows and sagging floorboards and ceilings. Get the builder in to put in emergency water and electricity. The insurance company should foot the bill for this.

Telephone the insurance companies. The chances are that you are covered by two policies — one for the building, which would have been taken out when you got your mortgage, and the other for the contents. Explain the level of the damage.

John McDermott, of the Norwich Union, says that it is important for the householder to explain how serious the damage is. "You often find that what is really some minor

event is described as if it was the worst disaster in Christendom. It can be very difficult for the insurance company to get a clear picture over the phone."

I was not too impressed when the building insurer offered to send us a claim form, dearie. "No, dearie," my husband said, with charmed timbers falling all around him. "I think we will need a loss adjuster to sort this one out."

The loss adjuster arrived at lunchtime. He was efficient and sympathetic but had clearly seen people go through these agonies a thousand times before.

"I hope you are adequately insured," he said as he picked his way through our battlefield. "Oh, yes," said I, "we are index-linked." Subsequent conversations established that the cover was satisfactory, but he had, it emerged, come across several cases where index-linked policies had not proved adequate because the value taken as the base had been too low.

As the years pass the index-linked valuations can come seriously adrift. Most people insure their property when they buy — often at the bidding of the building society, and for the sum its surveyor recommends. But each householder, he explained, needs to check the valuation for himself.

Victor Rance at the British Insurance Association says: "Even index-linked policies can get out of line. In the policy it is clearly stated that the onus is still on the policyholder to check that he or she is adequately insured."

The base point suggested by a building society or an insurer should be regarded as a minimum. Index-linking goes a long way towards ensuring that insurance values keep up with the costs of rebuilding, but it is not completely foolproof.

Even householders who are index-linked are well advised to check every few years that their policies are adequate.

Many people do not worry overmuch about their property insurance on the theory that homes are seldom razed to the ground. But, as Mr Rance points out, rebuilding a half-destroyed home could be more expensive than rebuilding from scratch.

If you want to check the rebuilding cost of your home you should get the free leaflets available from the British Insurance Association. Updated annually, the BIA guide shows how to work out rebuilding costs per square foot, taking into account the age, size and type of home you have.

The BIA also provides a guide to contents insurance, which is the area where many people are badly under-

insured. One in four households, it is thought, have no contents insurance at all.

It is also worth checking what kind of policy you have. Most new ones are issued on a "new for old" basis. However tatty your sofa was, you can then expect to be reimbursed for the price of its well-sprung equivalent in the shops.

But, and this is a big but, you will have to be properly insured in the first place to reap the benefits of a new-for-old policy. Otherwise the insurer can do one of two things. Either he can revert to an indemnity basis — making a deduction for wear and tear. Or he will agree the value lost and then give you just a percentage, depending on how much you were underinsured in the first place.

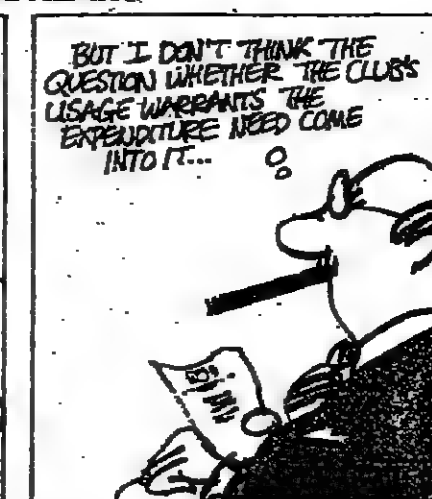
In our case the whole of the house suffered fearful smoke damage and will have to be redecorated. Under the older type of wear and tear policy we would not have got back enough money to do it. After all, you can hardly put up second-hand wallpaper.

If you have lived in your



Margaret Drummond, husband Michael and their daughter study the ruins of their kitchen.

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



BY ROSS

Rates

Referendums could hit the householder

Britain's householders should put a black ring round October 28, 1982, in their calendars, according to critics of the plans by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, to impose supplementary rate referendums on overspending councils on the day.

The critics, of course, are from the left, while Mr Heseltine is from the right. But, putting their argument to one side, the proposed legislation, announced at the end of last month, is of importance to all domestic rate payers.

The significance lies in a detailed memorandum sent last month to all 456 rating authorities in England and Wales, in which Mr Heseltine proposed a limit on the rate in the pound which each authority would be allowed to charge next spring.

Each authority would have its own limit, imposed by central government, depending on how much the Government thought should be spent on that authority's services.

The authority could raise more cash through a single supplementary rate, but to get any more money it would have to hold a referendum. And that is where the snag lies.

For when there was a voluntary referendum at Coventry earlier in the year, the residents gave a resounding "no" to the idea of spending any more of their money on increased services. It is likely that ratepayers elsewhere could come to a similar conclusion.

Should a council lose a referendum, it will then come under the indirect control of Whitehall, with further rate rises stopped and the next year's rate vetted.

To the hard-pressed ratepayer — and in some parts of London householders are already paying £1,600 a year in domestic rates — the idea is undoubtedly attractive. But, the critics say, the legislation will have the effect of increasing their rate bill.

For tucked away in the proposals is the suggestion that business ratepayers who have no vote will be relieved of the full amount of the extra rate. This, all agree, will pass much of the rate burden from business and industry on to the individual householder.

This week there have been the first estimates of what such a switch would entail and what the addition to the domestic rate bill would be.

London boroughs, including the six which this week "won" their case against the cutting of £3m from their rate support grant — the money the Government gives to

match money raised from the rates — will be particularly hard hit.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities considers that proposed spending cuts of up to a third represent impossible targets for the local authorities and that they would be forced to call referendums on supplementary rates. Because that money would then come from householders, they say, the increased domestic rate bill would be very high.

At Camden, North London, with an average rate bill of £11 a week, but a large injection of funds through business rates, the average family's rate bill could go up by a further £6 to £7, without increasing spending over this year's figures.

The projected Camden rise is the highest possible, the association points out, because households produce only a quarter of the council's rate revenue. Seventy-five per cent comes from shops, offices and light industry.

The picture is no less gloomy elsewhere. At Lambeth there would either have to be a 20 per cent spending cut or an extra £1.50 a week on the rates.

Though the burden under the new system will be less outside London, at Manchester it is calculated that a further £1 a week would be added to the average family's rate bill.

Rural areas, where the business rate is not such a high percentage of the total take, might not notice the increase in the supplementary rate quite so much. But there are several towns which have encouraged the development of light industry, of shopping plazas and of offices, where the business proportion of the rate income has risen steadily but unnoticed over the years.

Should you come under these authorities, your rates bill will rise.

There are only two ways to which the individual householder can reduce, or attempt to reduce, his rates bill. It is either by appealing against the rate assessment on some such ground as loss of amenity — and such appeals are seldom successful — or by applying to the local authority for a rate rebate. It should be remembered that these rebates are available not only to the needy. Though regulations vary from area to area, if your income, together with your various allowances, is less than ten times what your annual rates bill is, you may well qualify.

Why not pop along to the town hall and find out?

Roger Beard

Higher rate dropped

The Halifax has now decided to scrap higher rates of interest on mortgages of more than £15,000. Following the lead of the Nationwide, last week the Halifax will now charge a single rate of 15 per cent on all new mortgages of whatever size.

Existing borrowers with larger loans will find their repayments adjusted for the new rate from the beginning of February.

The Halifax says that with the rise in house prices over the last few years increasing numbers of first-time buyers are having to pay the higher mortgage rate, particularly in areas where housing is more expensive than average.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	15 1/2%
Barclays	15 1/2%
BCCI	16%
Consolidated Crds	16%
C. Hoare & Co	15 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	15 1/2%
Midland Bank	15 1/2%
Nat Westminster	15 1/2%
TSB	15%
Williams and Glyn's	15 1/2%

* 1 day deposit on sums of £25,000 or more. 14% overdraft. £50,000 14 1/2%.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yld	Actual	P/E	Turn
114	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	109	-1	10.0	9.2	—	—	—
76	29	Airspare Group	66nd	-1	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5	—
52	21	Armstrong & Rhodes	43	-	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1	—
280	524	Barclay Hill	192	-1	9.7	5.1	9.3	11.4	—
104	88	Deborah Services	97	-	5.5	5.7	4.8	9.1	—
126	58	Frank Horrell	115	-1	6.4	5.6	10.4	25.0	—
110	39	Frederick Parker	59	-1	1.7	2.9	25.1	—	—
110	49	George Blair	49	-1	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	96	-	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—
113	59	Jackson Group	97	-	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9	—
130	103	James Burrough	110	+1	8.7	7.9	8.0	10.1	—
334	244	Robert Jenkins	283	-2	31.3	11.1	3.9	10.9	—
59	30	Scruttons "A"	53	-1	5.3	10.0	8.2	7.6	—
224	187	Torday Limited	187	-	15.1	8.1	7.2	12.4	—
23	8	Twinkl Ord	14	-	—	—	—	—	—
30	68	Twinkl 15% ULS	79	+1	15.0	19.0	—	—	—
56	33	Unilock Holdings	33	-	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.9	—
103	81	Walker Alexander	83	-1	6.4	7.7	5.5	9.7	—
263	181	W. S. Yates	224	-1	13.1	5.8	4.2	8.5	—

THE TIMES Veuve Clicquot Business Woman of the Year 1981 Award.

Champagne awaits the person who can nominate the outstanding Business Woman for 1981.

The Times Newspaper and Veuve Clicquot Champagne are seeking nominations for this unique Award which encourages and complements the efforts of women in the commercial world. It is no longer exclusively a man's world and there are many awards for women in all walks of life — except business. For these women the climb to the top has probably been harder than for their male colleagues, who now, at least, accept them as professionals and equals.

The Clicquot Inspiration

La Veuve Clicquot was a vivacious young widow and she is the inspiration behind the Award. Possibly the first female tycoon, Madame Clicquot became a successful entrepreneur and adventurous exporter. She was a key figure in the perfection of the world's most exciting drink and her bubbling wine thwarted the Napoleonic blockade, seduced the Russian court and laid the foundations for one of the world's leading Champagne Houses.

A Successor

Madame Clicquot had charisma and style. Her success could be gauged accurately by her power, her dynamism, her innovation and her tenacity. Yet she retained her femininity and is immortalised each time her wine is called for as "The Widow."

The panel is searching for a woman of 1981 who can match the image of this astonishing woman. Her business is irrelevant. Her achievements, her enterprise and the obstacles she has had to overcome are all aspects the panel will be considering.

Nominations

Completed entries should be accompanied by the fullest information possible. Biographies, press cuttings, financial reports and in particular any details concerning the nominee's personal responsibilities for financial performance and company growth.

Nominations are welcome from anyone and previous nominations may be repeated for 1981.

Completed forms should be returned to Paul McGhee, "Business Women", The Times, PO Box 7, London WC1X 6EZ.

Closing date for entries: 1st November, 1981.

Champagne Prizes

Two cases of Veuve Clicquot Champagne will be presented to the winning nominator who, together with the nominators of all finalists, will be invited to a Champagne reception in The Times Boardroom.

The Award

The Times Veuve-Clicquot Business Woman of the Year will receive: A vine to be named after her in the world-famous Clicquot vineyards. An expenses paid visit for two to Rheims for the christening of the vine. The winner will become Une Amie de la Veuve. At a traditional ceremony during her visit she will be enrolled as one of a distinguished circle of friends who receive a bottle of the Widow every birthday.

A silver replica of Madame Clicquot's own baton and a case of La Grande Dame — a very special vintage Champagne produced to mark the celebration of La Veuve's bi-centenary and made from the vineyards owned during her lifetime.

Finalists each receive a replica baton and a bottle of La Grande Dame.

The presentation of the Award will be made at a reception in the Boardroom of The Times Newspaper.

My reasons for nominating her are as follows:

I nominate _____

Her company is _____

Her status _____

Nominator's name _____

Address _____

Daytime telephone number _____

Rules:

- The woman nominated must be based in the U.K.
- The Times Newspaper Limited and Veuve Clicquot Champagne employees and their relatives may not enter.
- The decision of the panel of judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Closing date of the Award: 1st November 1981. Winners will be announced in The Times Business News shortly afterwards.
- No names will be quoted without prior consent.



Where to get help to fight a test case

In the United States a company guilty of sex discrimination could find itself paying out millions of dollars in back pay to all its female employees. Class actions — which allow all the members of a class to claim damages in one court action, sharing the legal fees — are unknown to English law.

In this country, for the most part, only the person who brings a legal action can benefit directly from the judgment and damages awarded. But there are cases — usually loosely referred to as test cases — in which the implications are much wider than a win or loss for the injured party involved.

Because the surveyors were acting on the building society's instructions, their insurers argued that they owed the Yamiis no duty of care, and were therefore not liable.

The judge decided that the surveyors were legally responsible for the Yamiis' loss. Because only about ten per cent of house buyers bother to have an independent survey, the surveyors should have known that the Yamiis would rely on their report to the building society as confirmation of the property's soundness.

But that may not be the last word, because so far the case has only been to the High Court. It is open to the surveyors to appeal to the Court of Appeal, and a further appeal to the House of Lords is possible.

If an appeal on appeal, the decision is likely to have far-reaching effects. Building society valuations, which up to now have been fairly cursory inspections, may turn into full structural surveys, with the correspondingly higher cost passed on to the borrower. Surveyors' insurance premiums may well go up. Perhaps fewer house buyers will be willing to pay for separate surveys.

Unlucky buyers like the Yamiis will be able to get redress without going to court. But test cases are very expensive, because they usually involve an appeal from a lower court or tribunal, sometimes right up to the House of Lords. And the loser risks having to pay not only his own costs, but his opponent's as well.

Few plaintiffs in test cases are trying to prove a point. All they want is to get compensation for their own particular loss or injury. But when a case involves a matter of great public interest, it seems hard that the unfortunate individual who has no choice but to go to court should have to shoulder the financial risk involved.

But they may seek and obtain help. Some pressure groups, MIND, the mental health organization, is an example — have legally qualified staff and will take on test cases in their particular sphere of interest. MIND is at present fighting a health care reimbursement claim of £3,000 paid by the husband of a geriatric patient for her hospital care. Unions and professional bodies will sometimes provide help if a case involves a point of general significance.

Legal aid is probably the chief source of funding for test cases though the fact that a case is likely to establish an important general principle is not a criterion for granting legal aid. As long as the applicant qualifies financially, he simply has to show that he has reasonable grounds for taking, defending, or being a party to, the proceedings. But because few individuals have the resources to fund expensive litigation from their own pockets, inevitably many cases which could be described as test cases — including the Yamiis — are financed by legal aid.

Many home buyers who are too well off to qualify for legal aid would still not have the wherewithal to take on large and wealthy opposition. House owners in this category will benefit indirectly from the grant of legal aid to the Yamiis, because the decision in their case makes it more likely that their claims in the future will be settled out of court.

Legal aid is not available for legal representation at industrial tribunals, where cases of sex discrimination at work are fought. The Equal Opportunities Commission helps to plug the gap by actively funding test cases in both the industrial tribunal and the courts.

The Sex Discrimination Act allows the commission to use taxpayers' money to finance a claim under that Act or the Equal Pay Act if it raises a question of principle, if it is a particularly complex one or if the case of the little man, or more usually woman, against a big organization, or if there is some other special reason — for example, if the case highlights a current EOC campaign.

The commission has agreed to nearly half the requests for assistance received since it was set up in 1975 — 299 out of 621.

Help can take a variety of forms, from just helping the applicant fill in the form setting out a case for the industrial tribunal, to seeing the case through from start to finish. One of the four staff lawyers may handle the case, or the commission may pay the costs of an outside lawyer. They may take on a case jointly with the woman's trade union, or with a law centre, as they did in supporting waitress Ursula Hurley's successful claim against Edward's Bistro, which refused to employ her because she had small children.

Once the EOC has taken on a case, it will usually support it through any necessary appeals, including, if necessary, a reference to the European Court of Justice. A recent EOC-backed case referred to the European Court established that paying part-time women workers less per hour than men who work full time could amount to sex discrimination.

Tax is a fruitful area for test cases, largely because the law is fairly complicated. Appeals against the decisions of local tax inspectors go to the General Commissioners or the Special Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

The Revenue and the taxpayer both pay their own costs, regardless of which way the decision goes. If the appeal goes higher, to the High Court, the party who loses normally has to pay both his own and his opponent's costs.

Sometimes, particularly if the Revenue are appealing against a Commissioner's decision in favour of the taxpayer, they will agree in advance not to press for costs if they should win, leaving the taxpayer to find only his own costs. According to a recent Parliamentary question, they have particularly likely to do this if the case is one of significant interest to taxpayers as a whole, turning on a point of law in need of clarification.

The Revenue have even been known to agree to pay both lots of costs, win or lose. The court may make it a condition that they do so, before allowing them to appeal against a decision in the taxpayer's favour, though this is also rare.

Occasionally groups of taxpayers will band together to underwrite the cost of an inland Revenue appeal. But, says a leading tax lawyer, "this sort of test case is very difficult to organize. And you have to make sure that the facts are exactly the same in all the cases. Otherwise you run the risk that the Revenue will not agree to treat the other cases in the same way as the test case."

Claire Dyer

Highland Electronics losses continue

By Our Financial Staff
Despite a small increase in sales, further second half losses have led former high-technology glamour group Highland Electronics to report a pre-tax loss of £478,500 for the 12 months to April 30, against a profit of £369,000 for the previous year.

The company had moved into the red by the half-way stage and a further deterioration had been expected. Mr Michael Cohen, chairman, says the results reflect the downturn in the British economy. Large losses were made by the Redcliffe electronics subsidiary, which has been hit by the Government's defence purchases moratorium, and by Walter Jones, a supplier of electro-mechanics to the motor trade.

Mr Cohen also says that the losses include substantial redundancy and other restructuring expenses. Turnover rose marginally to £3.75m from £3.65m a year earlier. Net profit, increased to £373,000 from £175,000. Earnings per share rose to 4.2p from 2.01p.

The dividend for the year is being cut to 0.7p from 1.4p last year. No interim dividend had been declared.

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UK demand helps Mettoy to cut loss

By Catherine Gunn

First-half losses at Mettoy, the toy manufacturer, have been reduced from £2.17m to £1.26m at September 5, after a 10 per cent rise in demand in Britain. But overseas markets were affected by a stronger pound, which meant significant losses.

Mettoy tried to maintain its export market share at the expense of margins, but export sales still fell 25 per cent. However, the recent fall in sterling has boosted overseas orders back to the levels of a year ago, and overall group order books are now 11m higher than they were in

October 1980. The shares rose 1p to 13p yesterday. First-half sales were £17.9m against £16.4m. Trading losses were £563,000 against £983,000, but interest costs fell to £954,000 against £1,060m. Costs are being kept under tight control.

Mr Alfred Shepperd, chairman, said that Christmas orders are being placed late this year. Much depends on the outcome of the last two months of the year to January 31, and the group is not forecasting whether it will manage to break even a year or not. At the moment Mettoy is trading profitably.

There is no first half dividend. Last year there was a token payment of 0.14p gross.

Delays in receiving supplies from a big Far East supplier mean that Mettoy is flying the delayed goods into Britain a much greater than expected cost to avoid disappointing its customers, Mr Peter Katz, managing director, said yesterday.

The group is marketing its toy more aggressively overseas now. Group stocks are not being built up as much as usual, however, so production is more closely linked to orders.



Mr Alfred Shepperd, chairman of Mettoy.

Clive Discount in red midway

Clive Discount is the fourth discount house to report first-half figures this week, and the third to announce a six-month loss. Unlike its competitors who have already reported, however, Clive is paying no dividend for the first six months to September 30. The shares fell 3p to 27p yesterday. "We are trying to sustain our inner reserves", Mr Nicholas Chamberlain, chairman, said. "We are very cautious." He said the discount house would take a view on whether to maintain the 1979-80 dividend of 2.14p gross at the year end. For the moment the company is taking a bearish view of interest rates and running a short book.

A sharp rise in interest rates shortly before the end of September is blamed for the depreciation of investments in the first half.

Churchbury-Law Land

Churchbury Estates is making yet a further attempt to corral the shares in Law Land it does not yet own, following its recent share change offer. Churchbury now says that its offer will

close on November 12 and that it is not obliged to make a new offer for the rest. But Sir Henry Warner and Lloyd's Bank International are still not accepting for their 11 per cent block, and Churchbury itself says it has only over 86 per cent of the shares. These are still quoted at 102p, or at the Churchbury offer value.

Unilever issue

Unilever NY will make a 100c Swiss franc (£35m) bonds issue due 1993. The coupon and issue price will be established next Wednesday.

J. W. Spear slumps

Games and toys manufacturer J. W. Spear and Sons reported a first-half pre-tax loss of £115,000 against a profit of £470,000 a year earlier and cut its interim dividend to 3.5p from 4.25p gross, despite an increase in sales to £5.22m from £4.91m. The loss per share was 4.7p against earnings of the same amount a year earlier.

Conparisons consolidated the results of the SIO Group acquired during the first half of last year.

The company says it is confident of second-half recovery and hopes to maintain its dividend for the full year at 6p.

Crosby House

Crosby House, a freight forwarding and warehousing group whose Sri Lankan tea estates were nationalized five years ago, is negotiating to take over Jazette, which has commodity trading, Asian plantation and liquid bulk storage interests, in a shares-and-loan notes agreement.

Jazette is a private company owned by the Robinson family, one of whose members, Mr R. M. Robinson, is a director of Crosby House.

Winterthur bid

Winterthur, the Swiss insurance group, said yesterday that takeover bid acceptance had raised its stake in Provident Life Association of London to 83.7 per cent.

Winterthur's 340p share offer was agreed with the controlling Profumo family last month. The original bid was raised from 320p. Winterthur held 25.5 per cent prior to the bid.

First-half loss at Hawtin

By Our Financial Staff
Hawtin, the Blackpool manufacturer of protective clothes and safety equipment, lost £122,000 before tax in the six months to July 31 against profits of £229,000.

The group's main outlets in the engineering and construction industries were themselves severely depressed in the first half, hitting demand. In 1980-81 group profits collapsed from £1.16m to just £283,000 pre-tax.

However, the group had not expected to make a first half loss this time, which is blamed on one subsidiary, Lexmain.

The closure cost of £235,000 is shown as an extraordinary item. The rest of the group is operating profitably, albeit on a much lower base and Hawtin hopes to break even.

First-half sales slipped from £6.08m to £4.96m. There was a £27,000 trading loss against profits of £434,000, but interest payable fell from £205,000 to £85,000, and the group's liquidity position is still reasonably strong.

HIGHER RATES FROM NOVEMBER 1st

NEW HIGHER INTEREST MONEY-BACK CHOICE FROM NATIONWIDE

40% pa GROSS INCOME PLUS GROWTH POTENTIAL

Leading City Institutions offer 10% pa free of all personal taxes to all tax payers which equates to the above rate for a 78% tax payer.

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Patrick Campbell, **HERSCHE FUND MANAGERS LTD.**, 15, South Molton Street, London W1P 1DE. Tel: 01-429-0281 Telex: 968770 COLCOM G

THE TIMES Christmas card Competition

Do you have a real eye for design—or do you merely "know what you like"? You are invited to test your powers of artistic appreciation by submitting the Christmas card on sale this year, in aid of a nationally registered charity, which in your view has greater artistic merit than any other charity card which you have seen on sale this year in the same price range.

At the same time you should explain, in not more than 40 words, the reasons for your choice. These may include the impact of the card, its wit (verbal as well as visual), its pathos, the quality of its execution, or any other artistic feature which you believe gives the card its outstanding appeal. The Times will present a cash prize of £100 to each of the three readers who submit the card which, in the judge's opinion, has the greatest artistic merit in the following "price" ranges—below 15p, 15p-25p, and over 25p—together with the most convincing reasons for his or her choice.

Additionally, The Times will donate, *ex gratia*, £1,000 to the charity benefiting from the sale of the card, which the judges consider to be the best of the three winning entries. A selection of entries will be published in each of the first five issues of Countdown to Christmas, a series of Christmas gift supplements appearing in The Times on Saturdays starting on October 31. Last entries must be received by first post on November 23. Winning entries will be published in the December 5 issue of Countdown.

RULES OF ENTRY

- Any card submitted must have been sold this year on behalf of a nationally registered charity.
- The price paid, date and place of purchase must be stated by the person submitting the entry.
- Each entry must be accompanied by a sheet of paper explaining, in not more than 40 words, the reasons why you consider the card to have outstanding artistic merit.
- No reader may submit more than one card in any one price range.
- Two copies of the card must accompany each entry.
- No employees of Times Newspapers Ltd or their families may enter the competition.
- The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. Entries should be sent, clearly stating entrant's name and address, in addition to the details set out in the Rules, to The Times (Dept CCC), Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Investor's week Pushing the panic button

As the Irishman said, it all depends from where you start. The FT 30-share index started the week at 463.4, and it nearly ended it higher, but for a relapse to 461.9 in the last hour or so of trading. I wish I could say that this means something. But I have said before (and will do so again) that you do not tell which way the train is going by looking at the tracks. It also helps to know how many people are carrying passengers the tracks are carrying.

All this week the amount of money investors have been turning over in shares has dropped day by day. So no new trend has developed. Equally, the market has not seen the finish of a downtrend.

Now you may, or may not, believe in weather forecasts. Assuredly you believe in folklore, like looking up at the sky in case anything falls down. Stock market folklore has it that a downturn changes gradient when there is, in the jargon, a "sell-off". This marks the climax of a panic.

During the September shake out, there was no sell-off. Prices dived so quickly that many folk who wanted to sell found themselves trapped. Just about every broker's circular that comes across my desk says, the same thing. This is: sell into a rally.

The daily turnover figures indicate that the market is not panic-stricken. The danger comes from another quarter. It is that week by week shares, measured by the FT 30-index, will slip almost imperceptibly to 400 when we then sit up and take notice. Then, and only then, will a sudden awakening (or panic) see the classic sell-off that precedes a new uptrend.

Personally, I foresee a reasonably strong rally early next year, but squalls in between. Pace Croydon North-West, this is the last chance for the Government to get its policies right. Either it seeds and we get a new equity boom, or it fails and inflation will once more impel us into shares.

Peter Wainwright

NEW More Flexible Share Account

9³/₄% worth 13.93%

The all purpose savings account that gives you day-to-day control of your money. Pay in what you like when you like.

Withdrawals now much easier — up to £250 in cash, at any branch; larger cash withdrawals by arrangement or any amount by cheque from your own branch.

NEW Higher Interest Bonus Account

10³/₄% worth 15.36%

Our new, extra interest account that gives you easy access to your money when you need it.

Add to your savings at any time — your money earns 1% extra interest above the Share Account rate if your balance is between £2,500 (the minimum) and £9,999. The interest increases automatically to 1% extra on the whole amount for balances of £10,000 and over. Your interest can be paid to you half-yearly or added to your account to earn interest itself.

You can withdraw any amount any time by giving us 28 days' notice. You only lose interest for 28 days on the amount you withdraw.

NEW Guaranteed Extra Interest Capital Bond

11³/₄% worth 16.79%

The 5-year investment for £500 and over that guarantees you 2% extra interest above our variable Share Account rate.

And you can withdraw all or part of your money at any time by giving us 90 days' notice. You only lose interest on the amount you withdraw during the notice period. Your money is of course available at the end of the 5 years without loss of interest.

Interest can be paid to you as regular income, monthly or half-yearly. Or you can leave your interest invested in your Bond where it will itself earn yet more interest.

* basic rate income tax paid † gross to income tax payers

It pays to decide Nationwide

There are over 1,000 branches and agency branches, and most are open on Saturday mornings. You'll find the addresses in Yellow Pages. Come in and see us soon.

Nationwide

Building Society

Stock Exchange Prices

Dull close to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday, Dealings End, Nov 6, 5 Contango Day, Nov 9, Settlement Day, Nov 16

*§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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